

The Dawson Springs Progress

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Dawson Springs, Hopkins County, Kentucky 42408, Wednesday, January 8, 2014

Seventy-Five Cents



JORDAN LONEY (left) and Randy Galloway, Dawson Springs Independent School System employees, salt the parking lot at the board office Monday morning. Extremely cold temperatures along with some snow and ice forced the school system to cancel classes Monday. Classes were also dismissed for Tuesday because of a problem with the heating system in the elementary school. Classes are scheduled to be in session today.

INCREASE FROM REGIONAL TO HIGHEST LEVEL

Influenza Activity Widespread

The influenza activity level in the state has increased from regional to widespread according to officials of the Kentucky Department for Public Health. Widespread activity is the highest level, which indicates increased flu-like activity or flu outbreaks in at least half the regions in the state. The activity levels for states are tracked weekly as part of the CDC's national flu surveillance system.

"With current widespread flu activity being reported in Kentucky and across much of the nation, now is a good time to protect yourself and your family by getting vaccinated for flu," said Stephanie Mayfield, M.D., commissioner of DPH. "We are strongly urging

anyone who hasn't received a flu vaccine, particularly those at high risk for complications related to the flu, to check with their health care provider, local health department or pharmacy about vaccine availability."

The best way to protect against the flu is to receive a flu vaccination. January is still a good time to get vaccinated because peak activity often comes in the early months of the year, Mayfield said. Influenza strains currently circulating most widely in Kentucky appear to be covered by this season's vaccine.

Healthy, nonpregnant people ages 2 to 49 can be vaccinated with the flu shot or the nasal spray. An

intradermal influenza vaccination uses a smaller needle and can be given to adults 18 through 64 years of age. Children younger than 9 who did not receive a flu vaccination during the last flu season should receive a second dose four or more weeks after their first vaccination.

Approximately 23,000 deaths due to seasonal flu and its complications occur on average each year in the U.S. In addition to flu vaccine, DPH encourages all adults 65 or older and others in high risk groups to ask about the pneumococcal vaccine which can help prevent one of the flu's most serious and potentially deadly complications.

YEAR-END REVIEW OF FRONT PAGES

Progress Looks Back At Second Part Of 2013

This is the second of a two-part series recapping the stories that appeared on the front page of The Progress in 2013. The months of January through June were reviewed last week. Following are the highlights from July through December.

JULY

July 3 — The Dawson Springs Board of Education approved a revision to board policy which raises the drop-out age from 16 to 18 effective in the 2015-2016 school year.

Mayor Jenny Sewell signed a renovation contract with Lanham Brothers of Owensboro to begin work on the Dawson Springs Museum and Art Center.

A two-mile stretch of Ky. 109 that runs through Dawson Springs will undergo construction as part

of the asphalt rehab projects awarded throughout the state. The project will run from the Christian County-Hopkins County line to mile point 2.069 at U.S. 62.

July 10 — Heavy equipment began moving dirt on East Arcadia Avenue between Food Giant and Hayes Hardware in preparation for building a Casey's General Store.

The city of Dawson Springs is working out an agreement for Madisonville to take over local dispatch services from 4 p.m. to 8

a.m. weekdays, all day Saturdays and Sundays and on official holidays.

A large crowd filled Riverside Park to watch the game between the Tradewater Pirates and Dubois County followed by a 25-minute fireworks display.

July 17 — Charles Profitt, who served only one year as superintendent of the Dawson Springs Independent School System, resigned effective July 22. He took a job at Cloverport Independent.

The Amateur Tradewater

Men's League, organized this year, has had a positive response. The teams, made up of local and area adults, play at Riverside Park on Wednesday and Sunday nights.

The Dawson Springs City Council voted to purchase a Dodge Charger police cruiser at a cost of \$24,373.

July 24 — A sudden storm Sunday night resulted in damage in several areas of Dawson Springs. A large tree in Riverside Park fell, damaging two vehicles.

The 65th annual Barbecue was scheduled for Friday in the downtown area. Except for one year when heavy rain forced a change of location, the event has been held at the municipal park since the 1980s.

July 31 — The 65th annual Barbecue netted a profit of \$12,561.75. The Dawson



BARBECUE was held in the downtown area

Springs Community Center will operate primarily on these funds for the next year.

An inaugural 5K Barbecue Run, organized by Jim Hillerich, was held to benefit the community center.

A new security system will be installed in the local school buildings during the first weeks of the school year.

Aug. 7 — The 2013-2014 school year began Aug. 5 with an opening day enrollment of 652 in kindergarten through 12th grade. Preschool classes will begin later this month.

Capt. Craig Patterson of the Dawson Springs Police Department, was honored along with 139 other law

1,195 HAVE ENROLLED

County Residents Are Enrolling In Health Coverage

As of Jan. 2, 2014, a total of 1,195 Hopkins County residents had enrolled in new health coverage through kynect, Kentucky's healthcare marketplace. This includes 809 in Medicaid, 294 in private health plans with applied premium tax credits and 92 in qualified plans without ATCP.

In surrounding counties, Caldwell County reported 329 individuals enrolling through kynect with 219 in Medicaid and a total of 110 in private plans. Christian County has a total enrollment of 1,266, including 960 in Medicaid and 306 in private plans; Muhlenberg County, 912 total, 604 in Medicaid, 308 in private plans; and Webster County, 355 total, 234 in

Medicaid, 121 in private plans.

At the halfway point of the six-month enrollment period, which began Oct. 1, more than 123,000 Kentuckians are now enrolled in new health coverage. More than one of every four is for private health insurance. Administrators of kynect strongly encourage anyone who has enrolled in private insurance to pay the first premium this week to ensure prompt coverage.

Open enrollment continues through March 31 for any Kentuckian seeking health insurance through kynect. Those who apply by Jan. 15 can have coverage activated as soon as Feb. 1.

—Continued on page A6

65 PERCENT FAVOR A LAW

Kentuckians Favor State Smoking Ban

Poll data released Jan. 2 by the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky indicate support for a statewide smoke-free law is at its highest point ever. The Kentucky Health Issues Poll found 65 percent of Kentucky adults now support a statewide smoke-free law.

Nearly seven in 10 favored the law, while fewer than one in three opposed it. Six percent had no opinion.

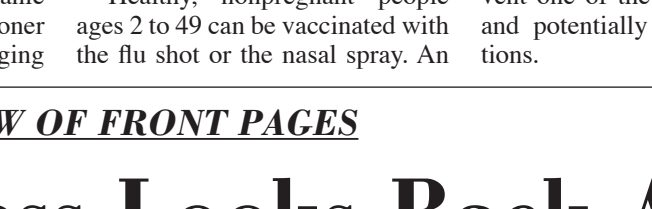
"Support for a smoke-free law has increased consistently since we began polling on this issue in 2010," said Susan Zepeda, president and CEO of the foundation. "Our findings reveal the statewide smoke-free issue continues to gain support among Kentuckians of all ages, walks of life and varying political party affiliations."

The 65 percent favoring the smoke-free law is up from 59 percent the previous year. It includes

a majority of Democrats, Republicans and Independents as well as a majority of Kentucky adults who have never smoked and adults who are former smokers. Although there is a clear relationship between support for a statewide smoke-free law and whether one smokes, support from current smokers rose to 38 percent in 2013 from 17 percent in 2010 when the poll began.

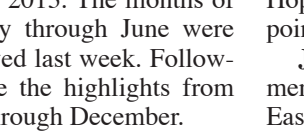
The U.S. Surgeon General reported in 2006 that no amount of secondhand smoke is risk free and recommended eliminating all indoor smoking. Smoke-free environments reduce the health risks of secondhand smoke to non-smokers.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 26 states and the District of Columbia have comprehensive smoke-free laws. The laws cover all workplaces, including bars and restaurants.



EXCAVATING for Casey's General Store

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Obituary

Leo Menser, 89

LOCAL 5 DAY FORECAST

Wed 1/8	Thu 1/9	Fri 1/10	Sat 1/11	Sun 1/12
40/29	40/34	51/47	53/38	55/37
Cloudy. High around 40. Winds S at 5 to 10 mph.	Cloudy. Highs in low 40s and lows in mid 30s.	Mostly cloudy. Highs in low 50s and lows in upper 40s.	Chance of showers. Highs in low 50s and lows in upper 30s.	Showers. Highs in mid 50s and low in upper 30s.

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AUGUST

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Calhoun Driver Injured In Single Car Accident

The Hopkins County Sheriff's Department investigated a single-vehicle accident in Hanson Jan. 1. According to the sheriff's office, Holly Wiles of Calhoun was traveling north on Stagecoach Road when her vehicle left the road, struck a driveway and became airborne. The vehicle continued

north and struck a tree. Wiles was extracted from the vehicle and was flown to St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville, Ind., in critical condition. Joseph Stratton was the reporting deputy. Hanson Volunteer Fire Department and Med Center Ambulance Service assisted at the scene

Osborne Sentenced To 20 Years For Murder

Joshua Osborne, 32, of Nebo, was sentenced in Hopkins Circuit Court Monday for the 2011 murder of his aunt Sherry Hays and for tampering with physical evidence. Judge James Brantley sentenced Osborne, who pleaded guilty in December, to 20 years for murder and

5 years for tampering with physical evidence. Because of the violent nature of the crime, he will have to serve 17 1/2 years of the sentence before being considered for parole. Osborne, who shared his aunt's home, hid her body in a shallow grave near Dawson Springs.

Officials Offer Tips To Offset Cold/Flu Season

By Austin Ramsey
Murray Ledger & Times

As the peak of the flu season nears this January, health care providers in the region are gearing up for what could be a winter as sickly as it is cold. Doctors at Murray-Calhoun County Hospital are treating patients for colds and upper-respiratory infections — many of which can take hold in the form of pneumonia if left untreated for an extended amount of time. Lyn Ryan, a nurse practitioner with Murray Medical Associates, said she is keeping her fingers crossed that her patients will make it through the three-month, December-January-February span without any severe cases of cold or flu. But for now, she said all she can do is wait and watch. She said it is important for individuals to take all necessary health precautions, including good hand-washing techniques and other preventative measures to help the spread or contraction of any cold and flu germs. Right now, Ryan said most of her patients who are fearful of the flu are being treated for a form of upper-respiratory colds that began with sore throats that can last up to three days before symptoms are noticeable in the sinuses and sometimes the lungs if left untreated. Typically, Ryan said these types of illnesses last between seven and 10 days and are sometimes accompanied by a low fever. Ryan said the fever is usually much more severe and often the illness itself will stay active in the body for a longer period of time when symptoms are due to the flu, but she emphasized the fact that it is often very difficult for the average person to tell the difference between the cold and the flu. "It may be hard for the

average person to determine, but the body aches and the fever are more significant with the flu," she said. Doctors at MCCCH are testing for both the A and B types of the flu virus, which are both most common in this area. It is important, she said, for individuals who suspect they might be suffering from the flu to visit their health care providers as soon as possible. Early treatment, she said, can be very effective in limiting the amount of time the virus stays active in the body. Doctors usually try to prescribe Tamiflu within three days of the first symptoms. The antiviral medication has been known to stop the flu virus in its tracks. Doctors are still offering flu shots, but she said the vaccination has been tailored to fit within a three-month window that began at the start of December. If the virus were to have already been contracted and is lying dormant in the body, the flu shot would not be useful in preventing the illness from causing symptoms or spreading. "Even if they've had a flu shot, they can get the flu, in fact," she said. "But it's usually much less severe when that's the case." Regardless of whether or not symptoms are that of a cold or flu, Ryan said anyone is advised to visit the doctor if symptoms persist for a long period of time. "I would say if you've had your symptoms for more than a week to 10 days, if you're getting a fever above 100 degrees along with body aches, then we're going to test," she said, "but we may also test for strep throat. That is common this time of the year, too." Ryan said children and the elderly are the most susceptible to contracting the flu or cold viruses. The elderly often are incapable of fighting illnesses off as easily, and children in schools often pass viruses easily.



EUVENAH LANTRIP (right) served as a guide in her sister Ruth Riley's home Sunday afternoon, Dec. 15, during the Holiday Home Tour. Here she points out things of interest to guest Cynthia Smith.

Providence Lady Injured In Single-Vehicle Crash

A Providence woman was injured Jan. 2 in a single-vehicle accident on Government Bend Road approximately two miles west of Dalton. Kentucky State Police reported Leslie May, 37, was traveling west when she lost control on the wet road. Her vehicle exited the right shoulder and struck a culvert before coming to rest upright off the roadway. May was transported by ambulance to Baptist Health Madisonville for treatment. She was wearing a seat belt. No passengers were involved. Trooper First Class John Komar investigated.

KET Lists Upcoming Programs

On Sunday's edition of One to One with Bill Goodman, Goodman sits down with Dr. Everett McCorvey, director of the University of Kentucky Opera Theater, to discuss The Gathering Ireland 2013. The program airs at noon. Based on the book, The Last Innocent Year: America in 1964, by award-winning journalist Jon Margolis, the film 1964: American Experience follows prominent figures of the time. They include Lyndon B. Johnson, Martin Luther King Jr., Barry Goldwater, Betty Friedan and others. The film airs on KET at 7 p.m. Tuesday. On the Jan. 12 episode of Connections with Renee Shaw, Shaw sits down with Audrey Haynes, secretary of the Kentucky Health and Human Services Cabinet, who talks about the state health benefits exchange program and major health and welfare issues facing Kentucky families and children. The program airs on KET at 12:30 p.m.

Bid Letting Began In Dec. For Eggner's Ferry Bridge

By Celia Brewer
Marshall County
Tribune-Courier

Bids for constructing a new bridge to replace the existing Eggner's Ferry Bridge over the Tennessee River were let on Dec. 20. The project is part of the larger Lake Bridges Project, with the bridge's design, a basket handle arch structure, eventually to be matched by a bridge of the same design over Lake Barkley, eight miles away at Canton. Keith Todd, spokesman for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, said that several major international companies that take on large projects have shown an interest in the Eggner's Ferry Bridge project. He also said KYTC engineers and bridge designers will need to study the bids submitted and make sure the low bidder meets all specifications for the project. "It will probably be the end of January before they sort through all of this," said Todd, who covers the cabinet's first and second districts. He stressed that highway projects are years in the making, but said the cabinet hopes to go forward on this one on "an expedited schedule."

The twin basket handle arch bridges planned for Eggner's Ferry and Canton will be among only a few dozen worldwide to use that design concept, according to Mike McGregor, chief engineer for KYTC Dist. 1. China has built several similar bridges, he said. Construction is currently underway on the western and eastern approaches for the new bridge, the \$25 million Lagoon Bridge Project, which has been described as a "bridge to a bridge."

Additional information on the projects is available at www.lakebridges.com, which contains a history of the public participation process that brought the Cabinet to the design chosen, according to Todd. The current bridge was rammed by a cargo vessel in January, 2012, with extensive damage forcing the closing of the bridge. Repairs to the bridge were expedited, and the bridge was re-opened to traffic four months later, at the end of May

Dawson Springs Police Report Week's Activities

The Dawson Springs Police Department released the following reports last week: —Travis S. Menser, 27, Dawson Springs, was arrested Dec. 31 on Dorris Street. He was charged with contempt of court (Hopkins County warrant), probation violation for technical violation (Hopkins County warrant), failure to wear a seat belt, operating on a suspended license, two counts of third-degree terroristic threatening, second-degree disorderly conduct, and second-degree fleeing or evading police (motor vehicle). Capt. Craig Patterson was the charging officer. —Emily C. Hammons, 19, 516 E. Walnut St., was arrested Jan. 3 at 45 Rose-dale Court, Apt. 37. She was charged with second-degree hindering prosecution or apprehension and permitting an unlicensed operator to operate a motor vehicle. Josh Travis was the charging officer. Two local men were charged by the Madisonville Police Department. —Floyd N. Wallace, 50, 115 E. Ramsey St., Apt. 12, was charged Jan. 2 with operating on a suspended or revoked license. —Carroll J. Reeves, 41, 302 Poplar St., was charged Jan. 3 with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol/drugs, failure to illuminate tail lamps, failure to maintain required insurance, possession of marijuana and possession of an alcoholic beverage container in a motor vehicle.

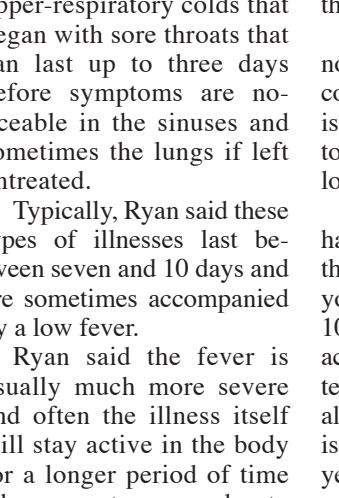
Vehicle Strikes Pedestrian On Madisonville Street

A pedestrian died after being struck by a truck on North Main Street in Madisonville Jan. 2. A preliminary investigation by Kentucky State Police revealed Patricia Smith, 49, of Madisonville, entered the traveled portion of the road into the path of a vehicle driven by Zachary Lawless, 18, also of Madisonville. Lawless struck Smith with the front passenger side of his vehicle. Smith was pronounced dead at the scene by Hopkins County Coroner Dennis Mayfield. The collision is being investigated by Sgt. Nicholas Rice, accident reconstructionist. Rice was assisted at the scene by Troopers Joseph Bartolotti, Cody Kromer and Louis Palmer and the Madisonville police and fire departments.

Ky. Receives National Child Nutrition Award

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service has selected the Kentucky Department of Education's Division of School and Community Nutrition to receive an award for outstanding service in child nutrition. The Direct Certification Performance Award, established under the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, goes to states for outstanding performance in directly certifying children for free school meals under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP). To be eligible for the award, states had to meet the federally mandated 90 percent benchmark for direct certification in the 2012-13 school year, be among those with the highest direct certification performance rates for the year and no longer use presentation of a letter as a method for direct certification. "This award means one of the most basic needs of Kentucky's school children is being met," said Kentucky Education Commissioner Terry Holliday. In the 2012-13 school year, Kentucky was one of 10 jurisdictions to directly certify 100 percent of SNAP-participating children for free school meals. The Direct Certification Performance Award comes with almost \$239,000, which must be spent to benefit the School Nutrition Program. KDE plans to use the direct certification award money to continue to improve the process of directly certifying children. This is the second year in a row the state has been recognized for outstanding work in direct certifications.

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Governor's Mansion Celebrating 100 Years

By Kay Harrod
The State Journal

It's the house that Frankfort built — literally — and this month begins a yearlong celebration of the 100-year-old Governor's Mansion.

Kentucky's 61st governor, Steve Beshear, and first lady Jane Beshear will head the centennial celebration. The couple also had the honor of leading the 100-year celebration of the Capitol in 2012.

It was Gov. Augustus Willson in 1911 who actually set in motion the building of a new residence, though he was not in office when it was completed. Gov. James McCreary and his daughter would be the first occupants in 1914. His wife, Kate, died before his second term.

After the Capitol was completed in 1912, the General Assembly selected the low bid of approximately \$75,000 from Frankfort Construction to build the Beaux Arts revival home as designed by Ft. Thomas architects C.C. and Edward Weber.

Dozens of Frankfort workers went to work on the impressive home that would replace The Palace, the original governors' residence on High Street. The new home would be within eyesight of the new Capitol.

McCreary frequently visited Berry Mansion in Frankfort and wanted a home that would be considered even more prestigious.

"He considered himself an aristocrat and made changes to the original design, believing that such a grand home should have a ballroom; and, therefore, to balance its look, the south portico, which now houses the sun parlor, was added," said David Buchta, director and state curator of historic properties.

The ballroom was filled with 85 re-enactment actors Jan. 5 who will portray soldiers of both the North and South, revelers and dancers, and McCreary to re-create the party that was held for the opening in 1914.

Buchta said since McCreary was a lieutenant colonel in the Confederate army, many of the soldiers who served under him donned their uniforms to honor his service at the grand party.

"It was believed that over 1,000 citizens attended the party held by McCreary. Through modern movie-making techniques, we're going to come as close as we can to that eventful evening," said Michael Breeding, a Lexington filmmaker who has been working the past few months on a documentary about the mansion's history.

His efforts have included interviews with governors, first ladies and their children, members of the staff past and present, and those who have served as directors of the mansion.

"Their stories and anecdotes have been fascinating,

poignant and filled with humorous incidents from their time in this home. They definitely have provided real insight on how it was to live and work here," Breeding said.

The film, "Kentucky's Governor's Mansion, a Century of Reflection," will debut at the Grand Theatre 7:30 p.m. Jan. 15. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased through eventbrite.com.

"Since Frankfort was at the center of the mansion's creation, we wanted its people to see it first," Buchta said.

A pre-showing reception is planned for 6 p.m. at the mansion. The cost for the reception is \$75 per person.

The film will also be shown Jan. 16 in Lexington with a viewing at the Kentucky Theatre and a pre-show reception at Portofino's.

All proceeds for the multitude of year-long events will benefit the Kentucky Mansions Executive Foundation.

"It is the goal of Mrs. Beshear to ensure that this year's celebration raises money to keep the people's home in good repair for years to come," Governor's Mansion Director Ann Evans said.

"While money is provided by the Legislature for routine maintenance of the house, no money is provided for its general upkeep."

Evans explained that with thousands of people

visiting the mansion each year, it experiences the same wear and tear any home would receive with that amount of traffic. Carpets wear out, floors become scuffed and drapes wear thin.

Just as the board is comprised of nonpartisan members and is actively involved in the centennial, Evans said every effort is being made to ensure this year's celebration is nonpolitical as well.

"This year is not about Democrats or Republicans; it is about a home that was residence to every governor and first lady of Kentucky since 1914," Evans said. "It is actually viewed as the people's home, where everyone is welcomed, and the politics of those people are never considered when it comes to hosting visiting groups big and small."

In June, a grand centennial celebration gala will be held.

Evans said the mansion will remain open to public tours on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Other days of the week will be added this year with tours conducted by Frankfort volunteers.

"We are making every effort to make the people's home open to as many people as possible this year," she said. "We want those in Frankfort, as well as citizens across the state, to have the opportunity to see what a showcase the mansion is."

OBITUARY

Services For Leo Menser Are Held Sunday, Jan. 5

The funeral for Leo Menser, 89, of Dawson Springs, was held Sunday at Beshear Funeral Home.

The Rev. Ruby Rickard officiated. Burial, with military rites conducted by the U.S. Army, was in Rosedale Cemetery.

Menser died Jan. 2, 2014, at Baptist Health Madisonville.

He was born Dec. 12, 1924, in Hopkins County, to the late William Lester and Jennie Lee Nixon Menser.

He served his country in the U.S. Army from 1941 to 1945 and was a member of the Lee Wilson Stevens VFW Post 5359. He was a member of the Dawson Springs Volunteer Fire Department for 27 years. He retired after being self-employed for many years in the furniture business. He was of the General Baptist faith.



LEO MENSER

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by six brothers, Hardy Menser, Orvil Menser, Morris Menser, Earnest Menser and Elvis Menser; and one sister, Geneva Lorain Inglis.

Survivors include his wife of 63 years, Willodean Menser, Dawson Springs; four nieces; and one nephew.

Gospel Jubilee Features The Jerry Simpson Band

Rita's Front Porch Gospel Jubilee, 8805 Ky. 112 in Ilsey, will feature the Jerry Simpson Band at 7 p.m. Saturday.

There is no admission charge. A love offering and donations will be accepted.

For information, phone 875-6248 or 875-6249.

Obituary Policy

Obituaries are published free of charge as a public service by The Dawson Springs Progress. Information is provided by funeral homes and the funeral home is responsible for accuracy. Free obituaries may include the following: person's name, age, address, date of death, date and place of services, minister, burial site and memorial contributions. Survivors and those who preceded the deceased in death will include spouse's name, children's names, number of grandchildren and/or great grandchildren and siblings' names. Also included is place of birth, date of birth, parents' names, one occupation or former occupation if retired, service club memberships, church membership, pall bearers and if they graduated from Dawson Springs High School. Paid obituaries will include any information the family wishes to submit. The charge for a paid obituary is \$3.50 per column inch.

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Many Still Enrolling In Health Insurance Plans

By Mary Meehan
Lexington Herald-Leader

Enrollment for health insurance through Kynect has exceeded 116,000, and state officials are urging people to be patient if they've signed up for private insurance but haven't received their insurance cards.

Dec. 23 was the deadline to be part of the first wave of health insurance coverage under the Affordable Care Act, which took effect January 1. In Kentucky, about 6,000 applications were processed in the 24 hours before the deadline, Gov. Steve Beshear said in a news release. The holiday season has not slowed enrollment. About 5,630 people in Kentucky have signed up since the holidays began.

With so many people signing up in a short time, according to Beshear's release, some might not have received their insurance cards

by Jan. 1. "Don't worry," the release said. "Insurers are processing a high volume of new enrollments."

Kerri Richardson, a spokeswoman for the governor, said the state hadn't kept track of the percentage of people who had received their cards from private companies offering coverage through Kynect.

People who've signed up via Kynect should have been in the private insurance companies' systems by Jan. 1, said Gwenda Bond, a spokesman for the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

But coverage does not take effect unless a premium payment has been made, so Kynect administrators are encouraging those enrolled in private insurance plans to pay their first premiums by Jan. 10.

There are no premiums for Medicaid, which is designed to help the poor. Bond

said people who have signed up for Medicaid through Kynect should be covered beginning Jan. 1.

Kentucky had about 640,000 uninsured people when enrollment began Oct. 1. So far, 84,480 people have enrolled in government-funded Medicaid and 31,672 have enrolled in private insurance, a total of 116,152.

Enrollment continues through March 31 for coverage in 2014. In Kentucky, those who apply during the next couple of weeks can have coverage activated as soon as Feb. 1.

The Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, requires all Americans to sign up for health insurance or pay a penalty.

Unlike HealthCare.gov, the federal system that has been plagued by technical problems, Kynect has operated with few glitches. Kynect officials said they expanded the capacity of the

Web site in anticipation of a year-end surge in enrollment. HealthCare.gov serves people who live in states that opted not to create their own programs.

Insurance cards

State officials suggest those who have signed up for insurance coverage but haven't received an insurance card, you can verify coverage with their insurer by going to their Kynect account. On the dashboard, click "View Details," then "Future Enrollments" to get an enrollment ID number.

State officials say providing ID numbers to insurance providers will help them locate new enrollees in their systems.

For more information, go to Kynect.Ky.Gov or call 1-855-459-6328. Kentuckians have until March 31 to enroll in private insurance or Medicaid coverage for 2014.

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Training Union, 6 p.m.
Evening Worship, 7 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

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Sunday Service, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, 7 p.m.

LAFAYETTE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
5325 Niles Road
Rev. Thurman Harris, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

SHYFLAT TABERNACLE
Rev. Rick Denny
Each Sunday, 2 p.m.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
North Main Street
Rev. E. J. Hatten, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

MISSIONARY BAPTIST TEMPLE
Corner 4-H Rd. and Rosedale Ln.
Bro. Donnie Howton, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Wednesday Service, 7 p.m.

FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER
550 Walnut Grove Road
Thomas Childers, Pastor
Sun. Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m.
Sun. Evening Evangelistic, 6 p.m.
Wed. Night Bible Study, 7 p.m.
(Bible classes for children age 3-15)

ILSLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Rev. Danny Earl, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

GREENWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH
Union Temple Road
Rev. Bobby McKnight, Pastor
Morning Worship, 10 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, 7 p.m.

DAYSpring ASSEMBLY OF GOD
55 E. Lee Wilson Stevens Dr.
Rev. Kathy S. Redden, Sr. Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m.
Thursday Bible Study, 10 a.m.

DUNN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Highway 109 North
Bro. Bobby Sellers, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Training Union, 6 p.m.
Evening Worship, 7 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

MIDWAY VALLEY PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
Highway 62 West
Bro. Willard Walls, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Wednesday Service, 7 p.m.

NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Junction 1294 & 293
Rev. Harold Salyers, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Evening Worship, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, 7 p.m.

PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Walnut Street
Elder Jeff Winfrey, Pastor
Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Service, 6:30 p.m.

STAR OF BETHLEHEM APOSTOLIC CHURCH
Ilsey, Ky.
Rev. Monty Fuller, Pastor
Sunday Morning, 10 a.m.
Evening Worship, 5 p.m.
Monday Night, 7 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

BETHEL CHAPEL GENERAL BAPTIST
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.

ILSLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH
Hwy. 112, Ilsey
Bro. Johnny Gibson, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.

RABBIT RIDGE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH
Highways 109 & 502
Rev. Raymond Cummings, Pastor
Morning Worship, 10 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, 7 p.m.

CHARLESTON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Highway 109 North
Dr. Calvin Bryant, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

SUTHARDS BAPTIST CHURCH
Highway 112
Bro. George Brooks, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Training Union, 6 p.m.
Evening Worship, 7 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

KIRKWOOD SPRINGS HOLINESS CHURCH
Kennedy Lane
Rev. Kenneth R. Moore, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Sunday Night, 7 p.m.
Thursday Night, 7 p.m.

LAKE GROVE GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCH
Bro. Wayne McCoy, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Youth Meeting, 6 p.m.
Evening Worship, 7 p.m.
Bible Study, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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Tim Morgan, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Evening Worship, 7 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

PROSPECT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Highway 70, near Dalton
Bro. Tom McKim, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

ADRIEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Olney Road
Bro. David Frisby, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.

NEW HOPE HOLINESS CHURCH
19000 Dawson Springs Rd.
Rev. Douglas Barnett, Pastor
Sunday Bible Study, 3 p.m.
Church Service, 4 p.m.

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH
Industrial Park Road
Father Bruce Fogle, Pastor
Sunday Mass, 10:00 a.m.
Thursday Mass, 8 a.m.

GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCH
Trim Street
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Wednesday Service, 7 p.m.

UNION TEMPLE GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCH
Bro. David Hoard, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

GREATER FAITH APOSTOLIC CHURCH
Highway 62 West
Morning Worship, 10 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, 7 p.m.

EMPIRE HOLINESS CHURCH
Empire, Ky.
Bro. Rodger Fuller, Pastor
Sunday Worship, 10 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Saturday, 7 p.m.

GOSPEL ASSEMBLY
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Worship Service, 1 p.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Wed. & Fri. Services, 7:30 p.m.

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Beulah
Bro. Nathan Bone, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Evening Worship, 5 p.m.
Wednesday, 7 p.m.

CASTLEBERRY GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCH
Empire, Ky.
Dwight Brown, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Bible Study, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

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Morning Worship, 11 a.m.
Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, 7 p.m.

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Polar Vortex Belongs In Arctic

There are very good reasons few people live in the Arctic. One of those reasons is because of something called the polar vortex. In the past few days that thing has double crossed us all and brought the Arctic cold into the area we call home.

Those cold temperatures affect us all in different ways, and if cold is going to affect you, then the past few days have shown whether you can handle the cold weather or you are just cold weary.

While watching the news and weather on an Evansville television station Monday evening, the weather man stated it was one degree below zero in Evansville (at the time my smart phone said it was 4 degrees in Dawson Springs). At the North Pole it was a balmy 7 degrees.

Al Roker told us while it was well below zero in Chicago, it was warmer at the South Pole.

Although it was winter at the North Pole and summer at the South Pole, the North Pole was warmer. My guess is because of that polar vortex.

Apparently this time of year, the low pressure area normally is over northern Canada above Baffin Island which is north of Hudson Bay. The culprit has shifted away south and has been centered over the Great Lakes area for the last couple of days.

The temperature in Dawson Springs dropped almost 50 degrees from 4 p.m. Sunday to 6 a.m. Monday.

The good news is, this dome of very cold air is heading back where it belongs, and temperatures in our area should reach the 50s before the weekend.

Hopefully that should thaw out some of our toes.

In case any of us are tested for our knowledge of a polar vortex here is what weather.com says: the polar vortex is an area of low pressure in the upper atmosphere and one of several semi-permanent weather systems over the Earth with typical centers in two main areas: near Baffin Island and over northeast Siberia.

While watching Florida State defeat Auburn 34-31 Monday night, ESPN's announcer Brent Musburger must have wanted everyone to give up on the Seminoles and switch to another station.

During the first half, with Auburn leading 21-3, he used the word "meltdown" to refer to how Florida State was competing.

Television announcers always make wild and sensational statements. When they make an incorrect call of the play-by-play, they rarely correct themselves.

After watching the Indianapolis Colts come back from 28 points down in the third quarter to defeat the Kansas City Chiefs Sunday, Musburger shouldn't have been so quick to count Florida State out.

And after all, when you say a team has melted down, it reasons that term refers to a team that is finished. They didn't melt down, they were

merely making Auburn feel over confident and had them right where they wanted them, the same as the Colts had the Chiefs.

According to the Associated Press, 81 percent of young Democrats approve of the Affordable Care Act, according to a poll by Harvard's Institute of Politics.

However, then the same group is asked if they approve of "Obamacare," the number falls to 58 percent.

Is it any wonder those against the act prefer to call it "Obamacare" and not the Affordable Care Act?

Although Christmas is long gone, if you had sent your "true love" the gifts itemized in the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" you would have \$114,651.18 less in your pocket. Your last gift (gifts) would have been given to your true love Sunday, Jan. 5.

That's the estimate from the annual PNC Christmas Price Index when taking the song's lyrics literally — giving the partridge in a pear tree 12 times, the two turtle doves 11 times, etc.

But you could have gotten off cheaper by only giving the items once, which always seemed to make more sense. That bill would have only been 27,393.86.

This one is from Ronnie Sisk. He says it is original...

Santa Claus knows all about you. He knows if you've been sleeping. He knows if you're awake. He knows if you've been bad or good...

President Obama is forming a committee to find the real Santa Claus in order to make him the head of Homeland Security.

Obama says this could lead to not having to use drones or telephone records since Mr. Claus could be an informer and let Homeland Security know who the bad guys are.

It's so cold that...

—The lawyers have their hands in their own pockets.

—Snowmen are begging to come inside to warm up.

—Hot air coming from Rush Limbaugh actually feels good.

—Hank Mills was seen wearing long pants.

—My dog Goldie has set a record for holding her pee the longest.

—The politicians in Frankfort and Washington couldn't get into a heated argument.

—With each pair of glasses being sold, free ice scrapers were given away.

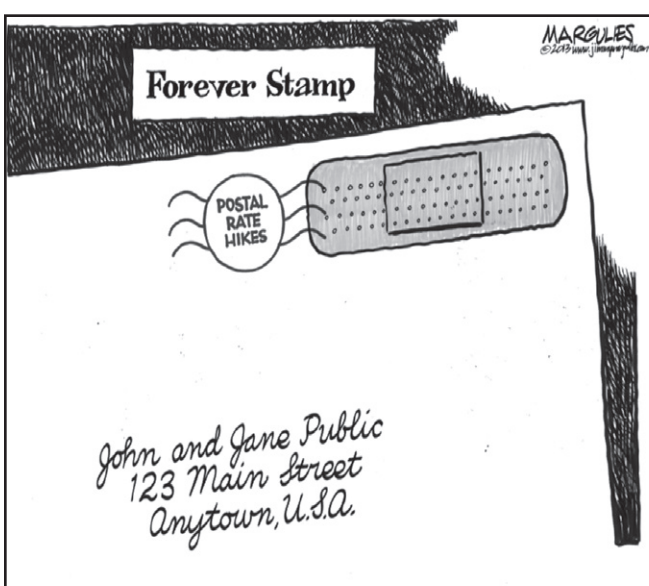
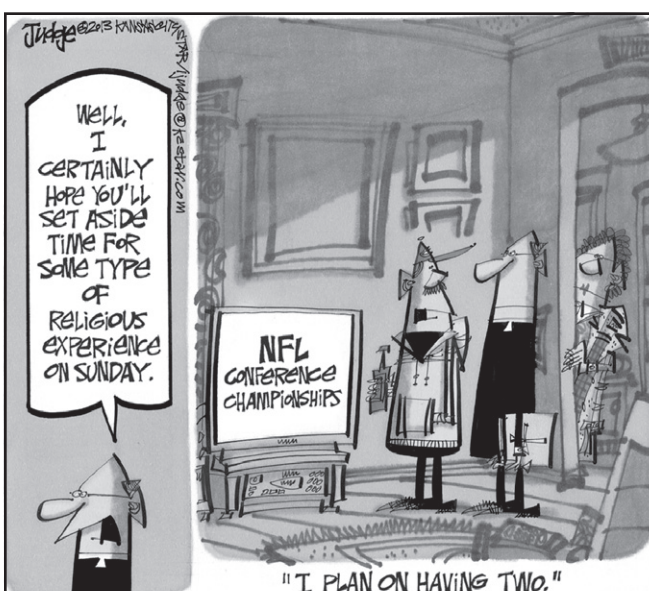
—Starbucks was selling coffee on a stick.

—Farmers milking their cows got ice cream.

—People falling on the ice had so many clothes on they had to wait for someone to roll them home.

—Justin Beiber pulled up his pants.

—Our neighbors had to chisel their dog off the fire hydrant.



COMMENTARY

Transparency Wins A Round

By Jim Waters
President
Bluegrass Institute
jwaters@freedomkentucky.com

In his recent ruling smacking the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services with a \$756,000 fine for making "a mockery" of the commonwealth's Open Records Act, Franklin Circuit Court Judge Phillip Shepherd sent a strong message: transparency matters.

It especially matters in cases where children die or are critically injured as a result of abuse or neglect — despite the involvement of the cabinet and its social workers, which will receive nearly \$2 billion in funding from state taxpayers this year.

Nothing the judge could say or do will bring back 20-month-old Kayden Branham, who died in Wayne County after drinking drain cleaner in a trailer where the dangerous drug methamphetamine was being cooked, or 9-year-old Amy Dye from Western Kentucky, who was beaten to death with a hydraulic jack handle by her 17-year-old adopted brother.

Neither will the judge's punitive measures bring back the many other children who have died while under the cabinet's purview. However, increased transparency resulting from his decision in future similar cases will save many young lives in the years to come.

Shepherd's decision is the culmination of a long legal battle between the cabinet, which is required to send social workers to investigate reports of suspected child abuse, and the Courier-Journal and Lexington Herald-Leader, which sued the cabinet after being denied information related to how these cases were handled.

"A lack of transparency continues to weaken efforts

to protect children from dying at the hands of an abuser," said Terry Brooks, executive director of Kentucky Youth Advocates.

Jon Fleischaker, the Courier-Journal's attorney who has been a dedicated proponent of government transparency throughout his career and who represented the newspaper in the lawsuits that led to Shepherd's decision, noted that while Kentucky has one of the nation's strongest open-records laws, it correspondingly has one of the least transparent child protection services.

"As a result, Kentucky in recent years ranks among the states with the highest rates of child-abuse deaths," Fleischaker said. "As this culture of secrecy pervaded Kentucky's child protection services, the rates of child abuse fatalities and near fatalities rose."

The judge in his decision shows that not only does transparency matter, a lack of transparency — especially by an agency charged with protecting children who already are suspected of having been abused or neglected — matters perhaps even more.

Noting that his decision is not about assigning blame, satisfying some "unhealthy curiosity" or invading the privacy of mourning families, Shepherd wrote it instead is about "a single, overriding purpose: to ensure both the cabinet and the public do everything possible to prevent the repeat of such tragedies in the future. There can be no effective prevention when there is no public examination of the underlying facts."

The judge believes shining the light brightly on this public agency — and demanding that transparency statutes are followed — will deter potential future offenses.

—Continued on page A7

Athletics Valued Over Academics

There's a reason some very famous quotes deal with the relationship between what people say and what they do with their money.

Some examples: "Put your money where your mouth is." "Where your treasure is, there will be your heart also."

Which makes us wonder about the values of Kentucky's public universities.

The Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics this week released findings that show spending on athletes at Kentucky public universities in recent years grew at a much faster rate than spending on mere academic students.

At the University of Kentucky, in fact, academic spending per student fell 12 percent, according to the Knight data, between 2005 and 2011, while spending on athletes rose 7 percent.

Total spending at UK per athlete, including from athletic revenues, was \$170,103 compared to average academic spending per student of \$14,798.

But UK is hardly the most alarming school in this data. UK, with its high-profit sports of football and men's basketball, put relatively little from its general funds into athletes in 2011, averaging \$1,682.

Not so at the regionals. As the chart here shows, Western Kentucky University,

which has been on an athletic steroid trip in recent years, uses an average of \$36,238 from university-wide monies per athlete.

Eastern is not far behind at \$33,177, and Morehead, where spending on athletes jumped 121 percent between '05 and '11, comes in at \$27,725.

Morehead is extreme but at every public university the growth in average spending on student athletes far outstripped that on other students.

This in a period when, as a punishing recession took hold, state funding contracted along with family resources. That means many students were faced with a range of bad choices: borrow more, leave school, cut back on either classes or studying to have more time to earn money to pay for school.

Not one of these is acceptable, each meaning that a student is either less likely to finish school or more likely to graduate with crippling debt. Or worse, leave with debt but no diploma.

In this context, university presidents in this poor state and the trustees who oversee them increased support for student athletes while allowing support for purely academic students to languish.

Certainly some will defend this, pointing out that

—Continued on page A7

LOOKING BACK

10, 25 & 50 Years Ago

10 Years Ago

(From the files of The Dawson Springs Progress, Thursday, Jan. 8, 1964.)

The funeral for Mrs. Maude Poe Franklin, 104, was held Tuesday morning, Jan. 6, at Beshear Funeral Home.

Skye Leigh Bratcher was born Wednesday, Dec. 3, at Regional Medical Center in Madisonville. He weighed eight pounds and five ounces.

25 Years Ago

(From the files of The Dawson Springs Progress, Thursday, Jan. 5, 1989.)

The Dawson Springs Emergency Squad responded to 35 calls for assistance during December.

Amy Klena Stallins turned three years old on Christmas day but celebrated the occasion with a party Thursday evening, Dec. 22.

The Dawson Springs Lions Club donated \$100

to the residents' Christmas fund at the Dawson Springs Health Care Center.

The newly-named Veterans Memorial Park was dedicated Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 28.

50 Years Ago

(From the files of The Dawson Springs Progress, Thursday, Jan. 9, 1964.)

Last rites were conducted for Mrs. Dora Mae Crain, 80, Saturday afternoon at the Beshear Funeral Home.

Funeral services were held for George Lee Eades, 66, Tuesday afternoon at the Ilsley Presbyterian Church.

Graveside services were held at Piney Grove Cemetery Tuesday morning for eighteen-day-old Timothy Lynn Adams.

Bernice Wagner celebrated her fifth birthday with a party at the home of her parents Saturday afternoon, Dec. 21.

MOMENTS IN TIME

• On Jan. 9, 1776, writer Thomas Paine publishes his pamphlet "Common Sense," setting forth his arguments in favor of American independence. Originally published anonymously, "Common Sense" is considered one of the most influential pamphlets in American history.

• On Jan. 8, 1916, Rembrandt Bugatti, a sculptor and younger brother of Italian auto designer and manufacturer Ettore Bugatti, commits suicide at the age of 31. Bugatti's sculpture of a dancing elephant was featured as a hood ornament on a 1920s Bugatti Royale auto.

• On Jan. 12, 1926, the two-man radio comedy series "Sam 'n' Henry" (later named "Amos 'n' Andy") debuts in Chicago. Freeman Gosden and Charles Carrell, both white, played characters who were two black men from the Deep South. Over the next 22 years, the show would become the highest-rated comedy in radio history.

• On Jan. 11, 1935, American aviator Amelia Earhart departs Wheeler Field in Honolulu on a solo flight to North America. Hawaiian commercial interests offered a \$10,000 award to whoever

accomplished the flight first. The next day, after traveling 2,400 miles in 18 hours, Earhart safely landed at Oakland Airport in Oakland, Calif.

• On Jan. 7, 1959, just six days after the fall of the Fulgencio Batista dictatorship in Cuba, U.S. officials recognize the new provisional government of the island nation. Despite fears that Fidel Castro might have communist leanings, the U.S. government believed that it could work with the new regime.

• On Jan. 10, 1961, Dashiell Hammett, author of "The Maltese Falcon," dies. Hammett left school at age 13, eventually landing at Pinkerton's detective agency. He worked as a detective for eight years and turned his experiences into "hard-boiled" crime fiction.




• On Jan. 6, 1975, a crowd of 2,000-plus lines up outside Boston Garden to buy tickets to the rock band Led Zeppelin. Someone pried open the Garden's locked doors around midnight, and soon hundreds of beer-drinking, bottle-throwing Led Zeppelin fans had the run of the arena.

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Statewide Smoke-Free Laws Aimed At Saving The Newborn

By Cindy Schroeder
The Kentucky Enquirer

Kentucky has the highest percentage of adult smokers in the U.S., and one of the highest rates of smoking during pregnancy.

To reduce the health problems associated with those statistics, Kentucky Youth Advocates — a statewide children’s advocacy group — is among a growing number of organizations and businesses lobbying for a statewide comprehensive smoke-free law in 2014. They’re being joined by the Northern Kentucky District Board of Health, which voted for the first time this year to endorse a statewide smoking ban at all work sites, including bars and restaurants.

Kentucky Youth Advocates is particularly focused on reducing smoking during pregnancy and reducing the number of babies born with low birth weights, said Terry Brooks, executive director of Kentucky Youth Advocates. He added children and pregnant women in 85 of Kentucky’s 120 counties are not protected from the health risks associated with secondhand smoke.

“We need to protect all children, not just those lucky enough to be born in a smoke-free community,” Brooks said.

The NKY District Board of Health, which represents Boone, Campbell, Grant and Kenton counties, endorsed Smoke Free Kentucky’s efforts for a comprehensive state law after the board spent several months studying information on the effects of secondhand smoke.

Dr. Lynne Saddler, district director of health, said a statewide law is better than local smoking regulations because it “would take away confusion (over who allows smoking and who doesn’t) and create a level playing field.” Also, it would be less confusing

to those traveling through the Tristate, because Indiana and Ohio already have statewide laws regulating smoking in public places.

Unlike past attempts to get a statewide, comprehensive smoke-free law in Kentucky, this time the issue is now in the forefront, largely because of the federal Affordable Health Care Act, Saddler said.

“Lately, there’s been a lot of talk about health and wellness and insurance coverage,” Saddler said. “That’s prompting people to have conversations about being healthier and ways they can save health care dollars. I’m sure that’s helping fuel more conversation on this issue.”

Across the U.S., 24 states, as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, have laws that require restaurants, bars and non-hospitality workplaces to be smoke-free, advocates say. In Kentucky, state lawmakers plan to introduce indoor smoking ban legislation for the third consecutive year.

State Rep. Susan Westrom, a Lexington Democrat, and Rep. Julie Raque Adams, a Louisville Republican, are co-sponsoring legislation in 2014 to enact a statewide law that would ban smoking in all indoor workplaces and public places.

“With some of the highest rates in the nation of smoking and smoking during pregnancy, it’s time to do what we know works and pass a comprehensive,

statewide smoke-free law in Kentucky,” Westrom said.

In 2011, the most recent year for which statistics are available, nearly one in four Kentucky births, or 23 percent, were to mothers who smoked. That year, low birth weight babies, or infants weighing less than 5.5 pounds, made up 8.1 percent of all live births in the U.S., compared to Kentucky’s rate of 9.1 percent, 43rd out of the 50 states.

Cigarette smoking during pregnancy is the single most important cause of low birth weight, which increases a newborn’s risk for serious health problems, such as developmental and intellectual disabilities, cerebral palsy and vision and hearing loss. Babies whose mothers smoked during pregnancy are more likely to die before their first birthday and are three times more likely to die from sudden infant death syndrome, Kentucky Youth Advocates said in a recent position paper on the issue.

In Kentucky, 28.3 percent of adults smoke, the highest percentage in the U.S., and the state ranks dead last in terms of smoking and cancer deaths, according to the recently released United Health Foundation’s annual health rankings.

Secondhand smoke exposure also affects many young workers and pregnant women who don’t smoke but who work in places where it’s allowed, Brooks said.

Transparency Wins

—Continued from page A6

Brooks also called for more transparency when it comes to the Child Fatality and Near Fatality External Review Panel, which was established to review the state’s child protection system in order to prevent future deaths.

He stresses the need for it to be independent and credible in order to gain and keep public trust.

Such credibility would be enhanced if panel members would sign a public-disclosure form revealing potential conflicts of interest, Brooks said.

“The public, the General Assembly and Kentucky’s kids deserve to know just

who is charged with investigating these fatalities,” he said. “Do panel members have — or have they had — linkages with the cabinet, and, in fact, the executive branch? Have panel members had a role in campaign contributions with this or future administrations?”

While such disclosures don’t necessarily preclude anyone from serving on the panel, making the information transparent would strengthen the credibility of the panel’s findings.

“We will know clearly who is charged with protecting Kentucky’s kids — and that is a needed extra measure of transparency,” Brooks said.

Athletics Valued Over

—Continued from page A6

athletes make up a small portion of the student population and that athletics adds an important, if unquantifiable, symbolic value to a school.

Of course, if symbols matter, then these spending decisions matter.

Speaking of symbols, UK takes pride in the \$1 million athletics provides annually

in academic scholarships, a number that in the context of UK’s \$2.7 billion annual budget could be viewed as largely symbolic.

The bottom line is this: When school administrators invest more in students who are athletes than those who aren’t, it’s a clear signal about an institution’s values.

—Lexington Herald-Leader



VIEWING the kitchen in the Davis home Sunday afternoon, Dec. 15, during the Holiday Home Tour are (from left) Cindy Allen, Judy Fox, and Wilma Laffoon.

Kentucky High School Students Tops Nation For Heroin Use

By Terry DeMio
The Kentucky Enquirer

Six months ago Kenton District Judge Ken Easterling, chief of the county’s juvenile drug court, hadn’t seen any heroin users in his teen court.

Today, the increasing number of heroin users who stand before him reflects data that ranks Kentucky high school students as the top teen users in the nation and reflects the growing problem of adolescent treatment.

In a 2011 survey by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 5.2 percent of Kentucky’s high-schoolers reported using heroin, nearly double the national average. By the time the teens hit their senior year, use had grown to 7.7 percent, nearly 5 points higher than the nation’s average.

For Easterling, it means about 10 percent of those in his court are addicted to the ever-popular and cheap heroin. That number doesn’t include kids who may have tried it once, he said.

“It’s insane. It’s frightening. It’s a call for alarm,” Easterling said. “I have middle-schoolers on heroin.”

Easterling said three to four teens out of the 25 to 30 who appear in his weekly teen drug court are addicted to heroin. The numbers vary as some graduate from the program, others are placed in treatment centers outside the region and new teens come in.

While the number of kids using heroin is dismaying, it is not surprising to those who’ve been watching heroin numbers in every facet of Northern Kentucky communities.

NorthKey Community Services generally has seen a rise in heroin use by young adults rather than teens, said Gary Goetz, vice president of operations and

business development for the agency that provides care to people needing services for mental-health problems, substance-use disorders and intellectual disabilities in eight Northern Kentucky counties. In a survey of teens ages 12-17 who use their services in Campbell County, five — or 13 percent — reported using heroin in the three months before taking the assessment.

The issue with heroin is, it’s become cheap, it’s very accessible, and I think there’s not been a lot of education about it with the current youth,” Goetz said.

Sometimes, Easterling said, he sees entire families addicted to heroin. “I have families in treatment: sister, brother, father. I randomly test anybody in the house.”

Kentucky opted out of asking the heroin question on its CDC survey in 2012, said Bonnie Hedrick, an author of the coalition’s plan to rescue the region from heroin. “That leaves us with a real gap in knowing just how extensive this problem is and tracking it over time,” Hedrick said.

Alexander Marshall, 24, of Erlanger said the connection to a school program might have helped him.

“I was struggling with addiction in high school, mainly prescription pain pills,” Marshall said, “but starting my descent into heroin.”

He remembers thinking he’d never use heroin. The first time he tried it he was 18, out of school and hanging out with another 18-year-old who used it. “I snorted it,” Marshall said, relating a common story among users.

It wasn’t long before he turned to injecting the drug, mainly because his tolerance increased and because heroin is cheaper and more potent to shoot.

“I think having kids involved in other things

would help. I was never in sports. It wasn’t my parents’ fault — I just think back and wish someone had pushed me a little bit, shown me something I’d be interested in,” Marshall said. “I didn’t really belong to any school thing.”

Marshall didn’t know kids in his suburban Northern Kentucky high school who used heroin, but that was before heroin’s spread in the region, he pointed out.

“It’s a lot more prevalent than when I was in high school,” he said. “A lot of seniors were doing prescription pills.”

Marshall, who declined to name schools he attended, said he was unfazed by classroom education urging abstinence. In some ways, he said, the programs piqued his interest in using drugs.

“I think teaching children about the illness of addiction and alcoholism is very important,” he said. “I think that there’s a lot of stigma out there that it’s a willpower thing and not an illness.”

Now employed and living free of drugs, Marshall said he sought help from the Grateful Life Center, a Transitions Inc. recovery center, in 2009 when his world crashed around him.

“I was 20 years old and homeless and had burned every bridge that I had — my friends, my family,” Marshall said. “I was dying from addiction.”

Easterling said his drug court kids are the same kids people see in their communities day after day.

“They are normal looking kids. They are in school. Their grades start slipping. They’re absent from the house,” the judge said.

“We are really worried about kids from different parts of the county,” Easterling said, “from private to public schools, addicted to heroin.”

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Waide Allegedly Misused Funds

A complaint was filed Dec. 30 in Hopkins Circuit Court by the business partners of Rep. Ben Waide alleging Waide had misused more than \$31,000 in Liberty Rehabilitation PSC funds since 2006.

Madisonville attorney John Whitfield, who represents Lawrence Holmes and Jason Myers, said there is actually a

far greater amount involved. His clients have alleged unjust enrichment fraud.

The complaint alleges that Waide overcompensated himself and spent company funds on campaign advertising, travel and personal expenses for himself and his family. It also alleges double reimbursement for legislative affairs.

According to a story in The Messen-

ger, Waide referred to the case as “an unfortunate business dispute” which he hopes will be resolved. His attorney, Todd P’Pool, said there is a great deal of misinformation in the case, which he believes was filed for political reasons.

P’Pool anticipates a discovery period of more than a year before the case is heard in court.

Progress Looks Back At 2013

—Continued from front page

enforcement officers for his efforts to increase the use of seat belts and child restraints in motor vehicles.

A six-month “permissive dialing” period began this week during which telephone customers in Western Kentucky will be able to dial either seven or 10 digits when making local calls in area code 270. Mandatory 10-digit dialing begins Feb. 1.

Aug. 14 — The board of education began the process of hiring a new superintendent during a special called meeting. A screening committee was formed and a tentative timeline approved in hopes of filling the position by mid-October.

Milling work was completed this week to prepare for the paving of a portion of Arcadia Avenue. West Arcadia Avenue was closed to truck traffic, and other vehicles were restricted to one lane while a drain was replaced near the intersection with Oak Street.

The chamber of commerce discussed the success of this year’s Independence Day celebration and annual Barbecue. Planning for 2014’s events will begin soon.

Aug. 21 — A reception in honor of Chris Smiley, former chairman of the Dawson Springs Board of Education, was held prior to the monthly board meeting. Smiley resigned from the board after almost 15 years so his daughter Kristin Crook could take a position in the district.

City taxes remained unchanged at 30.9 cents per \$100 evaluation on taxable real property, 47.8 cents per \$100 on personal property and 19 cents per \$100 on motor vehicles.

The school board voted to take the compensating rate of 67.9 cents per \$100 to bring in the same amount as the prior year. This compares to 67.3 cents one year ago.

Aug. 28 — In an effort to stop vandalism in the municipal park, Mayor Jenny Sewell authorized the installation of No Loitering signs. Police will ask people who are in the park for no reason to leave.

Three local men were arrested as a result of an investigation into a break-in and theft from the concession stand at Riverside Park. Tony Miles, Dustin Shumaker and Garth Forsythe were charged with third-degree burglary and lodged in the Hopkins County Detention Center.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 4 — As a result of two separate, unrelated incidents, school was disrupted on the last two days before the Labor Day weekend. A smoke from an overheated fuse in the high school boiler room caused school to be dismissed early Thursday. Students were evacuated for approximately 20 minutes on Friday while local police investigated a possible bomb threat.

An End of Summer

Forest State Resort Park celebrated the newly improved beach area.

Sept. 11 — A ribbon cutting ceremony was held for the new Katherine Barnett Technology Center at the branch library. Also showcased was furniture purchased with memorial donations.

Three Dawson Springs men were arrested on drug-related charges. Brett Cobb, James A. Fassold and James D. Todd were all charged with multiple drug offenses.

Dawson Springs and the Trail Town Experience will be featured on the April 19, 2014, edition of Kentucky Life on KET.

Sept. 18 — Erik S. Peyton, 34, of Hanson, a teacher and coach in the local school system, was charged with harassing communications, alcohol intoxication in a public place, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct by the Hopkins County Sheriff’s Department.

Kentucky State Police are investigating the death of a Paducah man found deceased in a pickup truck near Dawson Springs. The truck was parked at the construction site for the new I-69 interchange.

Chief Bill Crider reported to the city council that since the No Loitering program began, vandalism and littering in the municipal park have virtually stopped.

Sept. 25 — A breakfast honoring the many volunteers in the Dawson Springs School System was held in the Hard Work Café. The work done by volunteers during the 2012-2013 school year saved the district more than \$126,000.

The annual Fall Festival, sponsored by the Dawson Springs PTO, was held at the high school. The fundraiser for school classes and organizations had been held in the branch library parking lot for the past several years.

OCTOBER

Oct. 2 — The Dawson Springs Board of Education approved a working budget for FY 2013-2014. Interim superintendent Alexis Seymore described the budget as “bare bones.”

A reception and a wreath placing ceremony for members of the USS Earl B. Hall reunion group and local veterans were held at the Dawson Springs Museum and Art Center and Veterans Memorial Park.

The Interstate 69 southbound exit and entry ramps at the Dawson Springs Exit 92 interchange were closed to allow construction for the new interstate configuration.

Oct. 9 — Twelve applicants for superintendent of the Dawson Springs Independent School System have been narrowed down to four, and interviews were set for the week of Oct. 14. The goal is to have a new superintendent in place by the end of the month.

Demolition began on the old Charleston School building Oct. 1. The property was purchased by the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department.

High School freshmen, Courtney Copeland, Dylan Simpson and Haylie Cunningham, attended the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program. They were sponsored by the local Rotary Club.

Oct. 16 — Streets on the south side of Dawson Springs were milled and repaved by Pennyrile Asphalt.

Based on recently released test scores, Dawson Springs High School has improved, while the elementary and middle schools have declined.

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has asked motorists to drive carefully in highway work zones. Two incidents in as many days, one involving a fatality, point to the many dangers faced by highway crews.

Oct. 30 — The Dawson Springs Rotary Auction was held at the community center. Proceeds from the annual auction help the Rotary Club with its many civic activities including scholarships for graduating seniors.

Rani Aldridge Pepper of Crittenden, formerly of Dawson Springs, will be a contestant on the long-running game show Jeopardy!

Work continued on the I-69 entry and exit at Dawson Springs to convert the old cloverleaf ramps to a modern diamond interchange.

NOVEMBER

Nov. 6 — Lenny Whalen signed a four-year contract to serve as the eighth superintendent of the Dawson



LENNY WHALEN

Springs Independent School System.

Telephone customers in Western Kentucky have three months to prepare for mandatory 10-digit dialing which begins early next year when area code 364 is added to the same geographic area as area code 270.

Natural gas costs are expected to be higher this winter than last year. The average bill is projected to be approximately \$102.

Nov. 13 — The annual Veterans Day program at Dawson Springs Schools honoring local veterans was held in the high school gymnasium.

Approximately 280,000 Kentuckians will have to give up their current insurance policies which are being discontinued because they do not comply with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, according to the state Department of Insurance.

Chris Wooldridge with the Small Business Development Center at Murray State University was the guest speaker at the November meeting of the Dawson Springs Chamber of Commerce.

Nov. 20 — Fourteen students from Dawson Springs High School attended the 22nd annual Teen Leadership Conference in Daviess County. Participants were selected for their leadership qualities.

A local resident reported to the city council on problems at the “bath house apartments.” Richard Davis, who lives across the street from the building on Munn Street, said the property is not only an eyesore but is

also a danger to residents because of black mold in some areas.

The Dawson Springs Junior-Senior High SBDM Council held a first reading of proposed amendments to the athletic handbook. Among the changes would be a restriction on Sunday practices.

Nov. 27 — In his first board of education meeting since becoming superintendent, Lenny Whalen discussed what could be a major structural problem in the seventh and eighth grade addition. During heavy rainfall, water comes up through a crack in the hallway floor. Whalen has brought in an engineering firm to address the problem.

Amie Thomas of Dawson Springs rescued 2-year-old Jaycie Hall from a partially submerged car on Ky. 70. The vehicle, driven by Jaycie’s mother Eva Hall, left the road and sank nose first into the swampy area.

Dawson Springs received a \$75,000 grant for a city park baseball field project. The project will correct the positioning and dimensions of the field to meet KHSAA guidelines.

DECEMBER

Dec. 4 — The annual Christmas lighting ceremony and parade took place Sunday. Charlie Gary Beshears received the 2013 Community Service Award, and Janet Dunbar was presented the Professional Women’s Club award during the ceremony.

A winter storm bringing a mix of rain and ice or snow is predicted for the Pennyrile area. Accumulations of up to 2 inches are expected.

Dec. 11 — In a special called meeting, the Dawson Springs City Council approved the mayor’s signing of a contract to have the water towers painted.

The 2013 Holiday Home Tour, sponsored by the DSHS senior class, will begin at the Darby House and end at Pennyrile Forest State Resort Park lodge. Featured on the tour are the homes of Dudley and Ruth Riley, Ann Wallace, Jerry and Lori Wooton, Jeff and Christy Winfrey and Aaron and Tabitha Davis.

Joshua Osborne, 32, of Nebo, pleaded guilty in Hopkins Circuit Court to the murder of his aunt, Sherry Hays, 46. Hays’ body was discovered in a shallow grave at 1550 McKnight Road near Dawson Springs.

Dec. 24 — Jenny Sewell, president of the Dawson Springs Chamber of Commerce, was authorized by the organization to write the governor requesting construction of a regional post-secondary education center at Madisonville Community College.

According to Keenan Ratliff, director of elections in Hopkins County, 39 potential candidates had picked up filing packets as of Dec. 18. At that time, only 14 candidates had filed for partisan races in the May primary. Candidates have until Jan. 28 to file.

Dec. 31 — As of Jan. 1, after-hours calls to the local police and fire departments will be handled by Central Dispatch in Madisonville. A full-time police clerk will take calls locally between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays, and all phone numbers will remain the same.

Kentucky State Police are actively implementing the Operation Holiday Lights enforcement effort that includes nighttime seat belt enforcement and impaired driving crack downs.

Two recent studies show that driving hungover can be just as dangerous as driving drunk.



KENTUCKY Transportation Cabinet trucks were out Saturday all over West Kentucky preparing for a round of ice, snow and much colder temperatures. The National Weather service had declared a winter storm warning for Hopkins and Caldwell counties with predictions of from 3-8 inches of snow possible along with temperatures near zero. The warning was eventually canceled and the area received only a dusting of snow. However, the prediction of the very cold temperatures held true as high temperatures Monday were around 4 degrees.

PSC Suggests Dialing 270 Every Time When Calling

Here’s a suggested New Year’s resolution from the Kentucky Service Commission (PSC) for anyone living in area code 270: start dialing the area code with every phone call you make in 2014.

“This is a resolution that will be much easier to keep than those annual promises to exercise more or eat healthier,” PSC Chairman David Armstrong said. “And beginning in February, you won’t have a choice anyway.”

Mandatory 10-digit dialing for local calls begins Feb. 1, when area code 364 is added to the same geographic area as the current area code 270.

That means there is less than a month left in the “permissive dialing” period during which customers can dial either seven or 10 digits when making local calls in area code 270.

“With mandatory 10-digit dialing just a few weeks away, it makes sense to get into the habit of using the new dialing pattern,” Armstrong said.

The permissive dialing period allows customers to get used to the new dialing pattern and permits telecommunication providers to prepare and test equipment in advance of the establishment of the new area code.

Area code 364 was created in December 2012 when the PSC decided that the best way to meet the need for more telephone numbers in area code 270 was through the creation of an overlay, which superimposes a new area code over an existing area code.

“Keep in mind that an overlay does not change current area code 270 numbers; everyone can keep their current number,” Armstrong said. “The only change is the 10-digit dialing requirement for local calls.”

The overlay option is the least disruptive for all customers and imposes the smallest cost on businesses in the area, the PSC said in its order creating area code 364. This is the first area code in Kentucky created by an overlay.

Dialing 1 for local calls is not necessary now and will not be necessary after Feb. 1. Local calls will not become long-distance calls.

In its December 2012 order, the PSC noted that public comments received in the case overwhelmingly favored an overlay. The other option was to split area code 270 and designate a portion as area code 364, with both landline and wireless customers in the affected portion required to change their area code as a result.

The PSC noted that area code overlays have become the preferred method for creating new area codes nationwide. Overlays pose the fewest technical issues for implementation by an increasing complex telecommunication industry, the PSC said.

The first numbers using area code 364 may be assigned beginning March 3, 2014. Area code 270 numbers can be assigned after that date, but their availability will depend on how many remain in the inventory of each individual service provider.

County Residents Enroll

—Continued from front page

Officials say Kentucky residents who signed up for coverage before Dec. 23 but have not yet received insurance cards in the mail should not worry. Insurers are processing a high volume of new enrollments. Individuals can verify coverage by going online to their kynet account, clicking

“View Details” on the dashboard, then “Future Enrollments” to get their enrollment ID number. Providing the kynet enrollment ID number to the insurance provider will assist issuers in locating new enrollees in their systems.

Welcome packets and invoices should arrive soon for people who signed up in the past several weeks.



Beach Blast at Pennyrile

Three Dawson Springs

TOPPLE FREDERICK FRAIZE

Girls Capture 1st Win Of Season, 53-31

The Panther girls earned their first win of the season Saturday at Cloverport in a 53-31 victory against Frederick Fraize. The win is the first on the season against seven losses. The Aces slipped to 0-8.

Unlike in past games, the Panthers had a productive first quarter to lead 16-9 after the opening frame.

The second quarter produced 12 points for the Panthers while their defense stepped up and held the Aces to only three for a 28-12 lead at the half.

“We came out ready to play

from the get-go,” head coach Erik Peyton said. “We saw we could play with that team.”

The third quarter was the most productive of the year for the Panthers as they scored 20 points to forge a 48-23 lead after three quarters.

Panther sophomore center Hannah Winters led her team in scoring with 13 points, eight of those coming in the Panthers’ 20-point third quarter.

The Aces’ Devin Owens led all scorers with 15 points.

Andie Mills also scored in double figures for the Panthers with

10 points. Tiki Robinson, in her second game back after an injury, scored eight while eighth grade newcomer Taylor Whalen scored three. Whalen is the daughter of new school superintendent Lenny Whalen.

Erin Woolsey and Ashton Mitchell each scored six; Shelby Loney added five; and Brooklyn Cotton scored two.

“We did things I’ve been trying to get them to do,” Peyton said. “We played good defense and rebounded which got us some fast breaks and transition points.”

The Panthers’ home game

against Community Christian Academy was canceled due to inclement weather. The game scheduled for last night at home against Trigg County was also canceled. It has been rescheduled for Jan.16.

The girls will travel to Caldwell County Friday for a boy/girl varsity doubleheader.

Another girl/boy double-header is scheduled for Saturday against Frederick Fraize. Homecoming will be held between games.

The Panthers host Crittenden County Tuesday.

PANTHERS	FG	FT	F	TP
Loney	1	3	3	5
Winters	6	1	3	13
An. Mills	3	4	0	10
Woolsey	3	0	3	6
Cotton	1	0	2	2
Hendrix	0	0	2	0
Coyazo	0	0	1	0
Robinson	4	0	1	8
Whalen	1	1	3	3
Mitchell	2	1	4	6
TOTALS	21	10	22	53
3-pointers: Mitchell				

Panthers	16	28	48	53
Fr. Fraize	9	12	23	31



HANNAH WINTERS (right in above photo) wrestles Caldwell County's Lele Rodgers for possession of the ball during Friday's game at Panther gym. At left, Erin Woolsey (55) looks to pass as Caldwell's Alexis George defends. In photo at right, the Panthers' Allie Mills puts up a jumper against Caldwell's George (34) and Kaycee Woford (2).



Slow Start Dooms Girls Against Caldwell

Caldwell County's girls handed the Panther girls their seventh consecutive loss of the season 69-25 at Panther gym Friday.

The Tigers improved to 4-5 on the year with the district win.

The Panthers got off to another very slow start scoring only four points during the first period. However, the Tigers started hot and poured in 25 in the opening eight minutes for a 25-4 lead.

“Caldwell is a good team,” head

coach Erik Peyton said. “They got the jump on us early.”

The Panthers pepped up on both ends of the floor in the second quarter but still lost ground and faced a 39-13 deficit at the half.

The third quarter was more of the same, with the Tigers holding a commanding 59-23 advantage after three quarters. During the third period, the Tigers’ lead stretched to 35 points which led to a “continuous clock.”

In Kentucky, when either team leads by as many as 35 points in the second half, the clock is only stopped with time outs and free throws.

“We made entirely too many turnovers,” Peyton said. “If we can get more shot attempts, it gives us a better chance. We have to learn to be strong with the ball.”

Hannah Winters led the Panthers in scoring with six points; Brooklyn Cotton scored five; Shel-

by Loney and Tiki Robinson each scored four; and Andie Mills and Erin Woolsey each added three points.

“Our girls played hard even though the score was pretty lopsided,” Peyton said. “The girls didn’t give up.”

The Tigers’ Lele Rodgers led all scorers with 16 points.

Winters	3	0	2	6
An. Mills	1	0	1	3
Al. Mills	0	0	1	0
Woolsey	1	1	2	3
Cotton	1	3	3	5
Hendrix	0	0	1	0
Coyazo	0	0	1	0
Robinson	2	0	0	4
TOTALS	10	4	15	25
3-pointers: An. Mills				

Caldwell Co.	25	39	59	69
Panthers	4	13	23	25

Caldwell Deals Junior Varsity Girls 30-23 Setback

The Panther girls junior varsity basketball team lost 30-23 to Caldwell County Friday night at Panther gym.

Neither team scored much in the first quarter as the score was 4-2 after the open-

ing period with the Panthers on the short end of the scoreboard. After two quarters the Panthers were behind 13-8, and after three quarters it was 20-13. Both teams scored 10 points in the final quarter.

Andie Mills led the Panthers in scoring with seven points. Caldwell’s Camryn Clift led all scorers with eight points.

Also scoring for the Panthers were Paige Hendrix with five; Brooklyn Cotton and

Kaylee Simpson with four; and Hannah Winters with three.

The JV was scheduled to play Trigg County at home last night and are scheduled to play Crittenden County at home Jan. 14.

Frederick Fraize Denies Boys 2nd Win

When two teams with only one win apiece face off, one of them will pick up their second win. The Panther boys hoped they would be the first to get two wins when they traveled to Frederick Fraize Saturday afternoon.

However, it was the Aces who would get their second win against eight losses when they beat the Panthers 67-39. The Panthers’ record slipped to 1-8.

The Panthers scored 13 points in the first quarter, the most they scored in any quarter, but still found themselves on the wrong end of a 20-13 score after the opening period.

“We started off pretty good, moving the ball around and looking for a good shot,” head coach Jeff Miller said. “We did a good job of

that in the first quarter.”

By halftime the Aces had increased their lead to 41-21, then stretched that out to 63-31 after three quarters.

“After that (the first quarter) they went man-to-man and we couldn’t handle the pressure,” Miller said. “Things went down hill from there.”

Freshman guard Dylan Simpson led the Panthers in scoring with nine points. Nick Smith, a junior guard for the Aces, led all scorers with 18 points, 14 of those coming in the first half.

“Smith is a good player,” Miller said. “We didn’t have an answer for him.”

Daniel Walker and Tanner Adams each scored six points for the Panthers; Hunter

Dyer scored four; Justin Putman, Schyuler Storms and Kevin Brooks each scored three; Dakota Jones and Austin Hart each scored two; and David Price scored one.

“We’ve played much better,” Miller said. “We had a week off over Christmas and haven’t had any real good practices since. We’ve only been able to use half court at the gym because of some construction.”

The Panthers home game Monday against Community Christian Academy was canceled due to the weather. The next scheduled game is Friday at Caldwell County.

Homecoming is scheduled for Saturday against Frederick Fraize between games of a girl/boy doubleheader.

PANTHERS	FG	FT	F	TP
Walker	2	2	3	6
Simpson	3	2	0	9
Adams	2	2	5	6
Dyer	2	0	3	4
Jones	1	0	1	2
Hart	1	0	1	2
Putman	1	1	1	3
Price	0	1	1	1
Storms	1	0	0	3
Brooks	1	0	0	3
Riley	0	0	2	0
TOTALS	14	8	17	39
3-pointers: Simpson, Storms, Brooks				

Panthers	13	21	31	39
Fr. Fraize	20	41	63	79

Re‘Talleying’ Thoughts On Sports Person Of Year

SPORTS IN KENTUCKY



BOB WATKINS

Happy New Year, Charlie Strong. Football in Texas is like football in Brazil, nationalized and a little nutsy. Texas is a nation isn't it? And basketball is Little Brother too.

Meanwhile (most) Louisville football fans were gracious, wished their ex-coach well on his job jump. Media-types went along. Paid homage to a 25-million-dollar-man.

Just business, man.

Strong helped elevate UofL football into a player on a national stage. The Cardinals won all but two games last two years, pummeled a couple big dogs at the end of each and were headed to greener grass, Atlantic Coast Conference.

He involved himself in the community, became a celebrity, insisted his student-athletes behave, and, from all accounts, brought to the Commonwealth a role model extraordinaire in Teddy Bridgewater.

But, 25 mill. just business, man.

Media, certainly in Jefferson County, gave Strong a free pass for job jumping. No call to account for his clandestine meeting Texas Director of Athletics Steve Patterson.

All of it led me to believe Strong was a different brand of ball coach. Happy with his program's growing national image, financial security, high place in community. Peace of mind.

Wrong.

Just another ball coach who sang the feel-good tune to alums, fans, prospects and players about commitment, dedication, responsibility and do-the-right-thing. The chorus was same: Show-me-the-money.

√ Expendable, UofL returnees and 25 high school and JUCO commits for 2014.

√ Expendable, sweetheart extension with UofL to end of decade.

Just business, man.

ESPN talking heads and others media swooned. "25 million for five years, wow!"

Big money for ball coach, bigger money for institutions. While, simmering on the back burner, athlete-students who still want to know, "where's mine?" And, "why do I have to sit out a year when ball coach job jumps?"

Ignored in the Strong-to-Texas story, the Cardinal faithful who must be as cynical as an internet poster on Sunday: "I appreciate what he's done for the program, but I'm getting tired of coaches using UofL as a stepping stone job. It's getting old. I hoped he'd be different, but I guess I was wrong."

A Sports In Kentucky reader offered a cautionary note: "from my experience dealing with men from Texas, Strong is in for a culture shock. There's the USA and then there's Texas. And, they'll tell you that," he wrote. "The football job at Texas is like Alabama and Ohio State. You better not lose and fans prefer you win them all by 30."

So, in the end Louisville's Secret Santa has gone to Texas. Last word for Strong from Kentucky? Maybe Curly Bill Brocius said it best to Wyatt Earp in the motion picture Tombstone: "Bye."

Louisville football? Still Stepping Stone U.

Sports Person of Year revisited

Kentucky sports person of the year. A week ago Louisville's Secret Santa seemed a natural. St. Nick had given a \$13,000 gift for kids' Christmas in Louisville's west end anonymously.

This week, A more deserving sports person of the year in Kentucky is Emma Talley.

Talley was SEC freshman golfer of the year at University of Alabama and second team All-American in 2012. The Princeton and Caldwell County native won the 2013 U.S. Women's Amateur championship.

Beyond the wins and accolades, here's the best part: After winning the U.S. Women's tourney, Talley told reporters, while she hopes to play professionally one day, "I can't wait to get back to school. Right now I just love college. Roll Tide!"

Postscript. A reader, Dennis Stephens of Princeton, took note that three of my five 'nominees' for sports person for 2013 were Teddy Bridgewater, Rick Pitino and Secret Santa in Jefferson County, and wondered if "Sports In Kentucky had become Sports for Greater Louisville (area)."

Wildcats & Cardinals

Now that the Wildcats have grown up, says John Calipari, Big Blue Nation can enjoy a fun run in January. Seven winnables, four at home. Three on ESPN, two on CBS Television.

Best tests: Tennessee Jan. 18 and at LSU Jan. 28.

For Louisville January is man-up time. The Cardinals faces a six-game stretch that is polar-opposite to the cream puff quality in November-December.

At Yum! Center UofL fans get their money's worth: Memphis, SMU and Houston. UConn and South Florida on the road, and Cards close the month at home with Cincinnati.

Readers (right) write

Question: "Since Brad Stevens left Butler and Shaka Smart at VCU is high profile, who's the best college basketball coach out there who too few of us know about?"

Answer. Without hesitation, Ray Harper at Western Kentucky is outstanding. To watch the twice-to-the-NCAAs lately Hilltoppers execute is a joy. Move, move, unselfish and play together all while their coach exemplifies "this ain't about me" decorum on sidelines, is entertaining college ball for those who matter. Fans.

Everly Brothers

Phil Everly left last week. He was 74.

In Kentucky, our loss is profound. The Everly Brothers in their prime were more than the very best. A God-given blend of humility and harmony they were a song bird. Never mind their estrangement. They were ours, Kentuckians.

This week, our world is moved.

New arrivals in Texas

Hours before Texas introduced its new football coach in Austin, Rease James Daugherty arrived at a hospital in Houston. Our third grandchild, nine pounds, five ounces, was born at 3 a.m. Monday, Jan. 6.

Thus, my resolution — I hope 2014 is the happiest year of our lives.

And so it goes.

You can reach Bob Watkins at sprtsinky@aol.com.

New Year Shapes Up As Busy One For Fish & Wildlife

By Kevin Kelly

The new year already is shaping up to be a busy one at the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources.

The department's Fisheries Division is working to jump-start fish populations in Lake Cumberland and its tailwater in anticipation of the lake returning to its normal level in 2014, following a dam repair project which began in 2007. The division also is investing significant resources to add more fish cover to the state's best muskie lake.

At the Wildlife Division, a new deer study launches this year along with continued research to bolster the state's bobwhite populations.

Here's a look at what's ahead for 2014.

Deer study

Department biologists are partnering with two University of Kentucky graduate students to determine why the deer population lags in parts of southeastern Kentucky.

"We're pretty excited about it," said Tina Brunjes, deer and elk program coordinator with Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. "This is the first deer research we've done in the eight years I've been here."

Researchers will fit 60 female deer in Clay County with radio transmitters then release the does back to the woods. The transmitters will enable researchers to track each deer's movement and determine if it has given birth. Fawns produced by the does will be caught this spring and receive their own radio tracking collars. Researchers will monitor their movement for up to a year.

In previous years, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife has reduced the number of deer that hunters can take in southeastern Kentucky in an effort to grow the herd.

"What we're trying to do is figure out why these deer

KENTUCKY AFIELD

herds are not responding to reduced harvests," Brunjes said. "Right now the very popular thing to blame is coyotes. Another big one is poaching. Biologists tend to look at habitat issues: is there enough food? Is there enough cover? Do they have everything they need? We're not sure which one of these elements or what combination of elements is causing these deer herds to remain very low and stressed."

Lake Cumberland anticipation builds

The department is stocking more and bigger fish in Lake Cumberland and the tailwater below Wolf Creek Dam in anticipation of the lake returning to normal levels this year.

The prolonged drawdown was prompted by emergency dam repair work that started in 2007. While the lake remained low to help reduce stress on Wolf Creek Dam, bushes and trees that grew along its banks will provide good fish cover once it is flooded by the lake's rising water.

"It will be almost like a new lake effect for the next several years," said Fisheries Division Director Ron Brooks.

A project to improve and reroute Hatchery Creek downstream of the dam should get underway this year. Contractors will build a new one-mile channel featuring numerous pools and riffles extending to the Cumberland River.

Peabody quail project

A research project at Peabody Wildlife Management Area in western Kentucky is leading the way on the northern bobwhite quail restoration front.

The first four years of the project focused on habitat improvements and its effectiveness, said Small Game Program Coordinator John Morgan.

"The last two years are focusing more on harvest management," he said. "We've really just started to see in the last year where we've really had a boom in the quail population. We had these incremental gains, but 2013 was the year where we finally got a nice boom in the population. Unfortunately, on one of spots where we didn't do any work, they had a huge boom, too. That's the nature of research in our profession."

Cave Run Lake fish habitat project

The Fisheries Division this year will launch a major fish habitat project at Cave Run Lake.

"We've been doing habitat work for years in a lot of our lakes, but this is going to be the largest we've attempted," Brooks said. "We're talking about mile-long reaches — and about a half of a dozen of them."

Submerged trees and brush being added to the lake will attract plants, microscopic life and forage fish. It also will offer haven for young fish. The department plans to add fish habitat to Scott Creek, the Shallow Flats Bank Fishing Area, Stoney Cove, Adams Point, Ramey's Creek, Warix Run, Buck Creek and Poppin Rock.

If successful, the project could be a model for similar efforts in the future at other lakes around the state, Brooks said.

Kevin Kelly joined Kentucky Fish and Wildlife in December 2013. His journalism career has included stops at daily newspapers in Cincinnati, Ohio, St. Petersburg, Fla. and Charleston, S.C. He is an avid angler with a passion for muskellunge and stream fishing.

Winter Nature Watch Activities Slated For LBL

Got the winter blues? Embrace the season by joining LBL for one of the many wildlife-viewing van tours offered at Land Between The Lakes National Recreation Area. During January and February, there are multiple guided tours offering outdoor enthusiasts a chance to witness some of nature's greatest moments. Registration is required for all tours, and space is limited. Call 270-924-2020, weekdays from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., to learn more about each tour and make your reservation.

An all-day Nature Watch tour on Jan. 18 will take you in search of eagles, pelicans, and some of the 25-plus species of waterfowl that call Land Between The Lakes home in the winter. The morning session explores winter birding hotspots of LBL, while the afternoon session focuses on eagles in northern LBL. Join one or both tours! The cost is \$25/person for a full day, \$15/person for a half day.

Land Between The Lakes continues to offer Eagle Viewing Van Tours from 1-4:30 p.m. on Jan. 11, 12, and

from 1:30-5 p.m. Jan. 26, Feb. 1, 2, 8, and 9. Winter is the peak season for seeing bald eagles in LBL; both our resident eagles and visiting "snowbirds" are out looking for fish around the lakes. We'll take you to the best spots in LBL for spotting these magnificent creatures. Cost is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children.

Come Outside and Play at Land Between The Lakes National Recreation Area. Managed by the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Land Between The Lakes provides outdoor recreation, lake access, and environmental education for the public to enjoy.

Visitors are encouraged to review the official website at www.blb.org often for Calendar of Events, updates on programs and policies, safety information, maps, temporary trail and road closures, and additional information, or call 800-LBL-7077 or 270-924-2000.

Follow LBL on www.Twitter.com/LBLScreechOwl or www.Twitter.com/LandBtwnLakes

Owensboro Hunting, Fishing Expo Feb. 7-9

The Owensboro Convention Center announces its first big event of 2014: The Outdoor Owensboro Hunting and Fishing Expo, presented by Owensboro RV.

The expo will be Feb. 7-9, and will showcase everything from hunting and fishing gear to RV's, ATV's and more.

There will also be an opportunity to meet hunting celebrity Travis "T-Bone" Tuner during the show.

"We are thrilled to see the excitement and interest from vendors and the community." Said Global Spectrum's General Manager of the Owensboro Convention Center, Dean Dennis.

"This will be the premier event of the season, transforming the Owensboro Convention Center into a hunter and angler paradise."

The expo is estimated to have over 200 exhibitors with hundreds of hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation related items on display and for sale. The event will also feature informative seminars, appearances from hunting and fishing celebrities, and opportunities to win exciting prizes.

The expo is expected to have a positive and tremendous economic impact on the community. An estimated 5,000+ people are expected to attend the three-day event and explore downtown Owensboro.

Admission will be \$8 per person with children under 12 free. Sponsorships and booths are still available. For more information on attending and/or participating in this exciting expo, please contact Doris Sparks, Global Spectrum's Event & Sponsorship Manager of the Owensboro Convention

Center, 270-687-8927 or dsparks@owensborocenter.com.

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HUBERT by Dick Winger

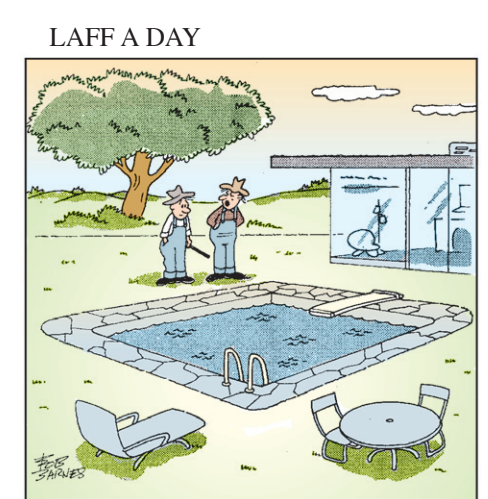


"I feel terrible—call the vet."

THE SPATS by Jeff Pickering



LAFF A DAY



"Dern fools! ... If they'd built the basement under the house it wouldn't have filled with water."

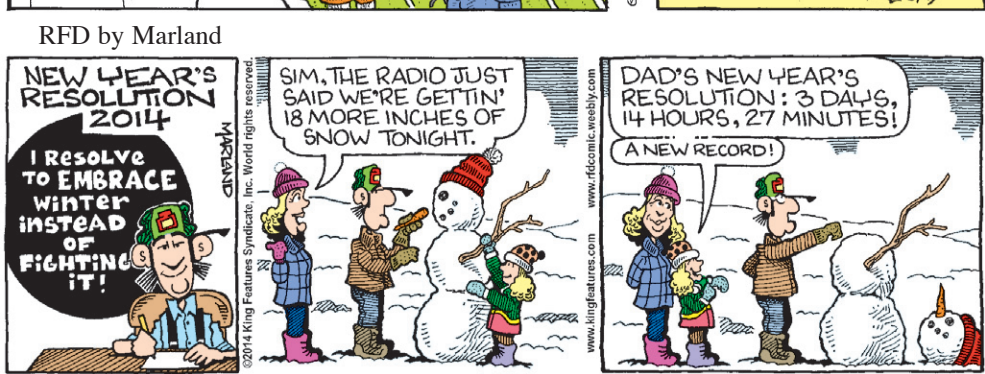


OUT ON A LIMB by Gary Kopervas

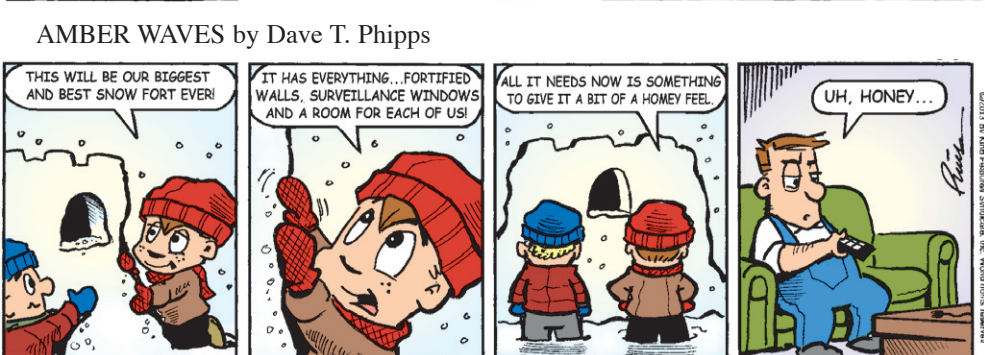


WHY IT'S NO FUN BEING A PROFESSIONAL SPORTS TEAM IN A GHOST TOWN.

RFD by Marland



AMBER WAVES by Dave T. Phipps



MAGIC MAZE • HANDS ON

Q O L J G L E B Y W U R P N K
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X V U S Q P S G N U R N K M D
K J H F E C B Z Y X V U E T R

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Bar soap	Grip	Handlebar	Steering wheel
Baton	Hand tool	Handrail	Tiller
Doorknob	Handball	Handshake	Writing
Gear knob	Handhold	Rungs	

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

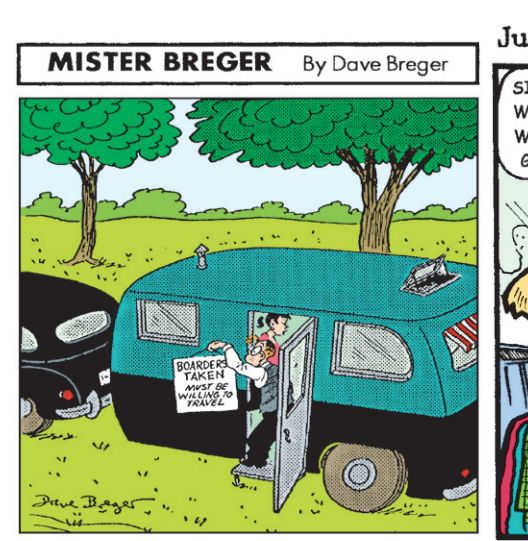
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

MISTER BREGER By Dave Breger



Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



TRIVIA TEST

1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Who designed the Statue of Liberty?
2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a beaver's home called?
3. LANGUAGE: In the international phonetic alphabet, what word represents the letter "Y"?
4. MONEY: What is the basic currency of Poland?
5. GEOGRAPHY: What nation is Baffin Island a part of?
6. TELEVISION: Who was Steve McGarrett's nemesis in the series "Hawaii Five-O"?
7. HISTORY: Who was the first postmaster general appointed by America's Continental Congress?
8. MOVIES: Which two comedians starred as friends in the movie "Stripes"?
9. MEDICINE: What is trepanning?
10. SCIENCE: How fast do hummingbirds' wings move?

Answers

- Frederic Bartholdi
- A lodge
- Yankee
- Zloty
- Canada
- Wo Fat
- Benjamin Franklin
- Bill Murray and Harold Ramis
- Cutting a hole in the skull to relieve pressure
- Their wings flap between 12 and 80 times a second.

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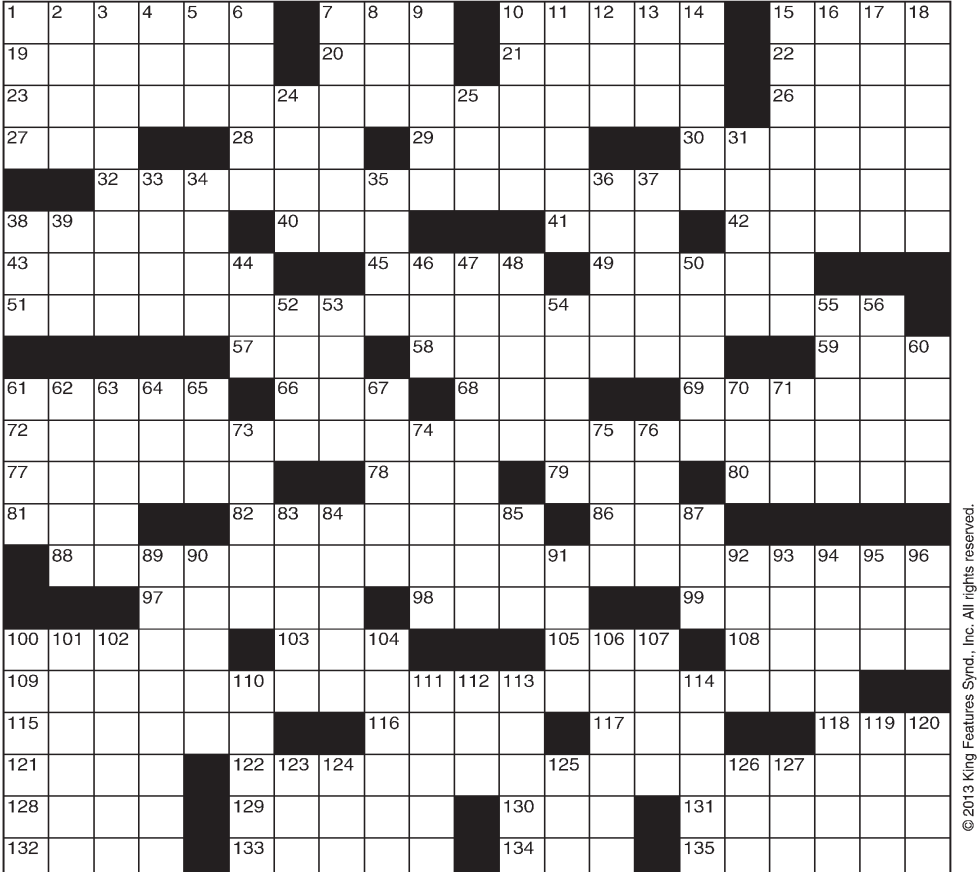
SUPER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Shackle
7 Sweeper, for short
10 Allegation
15 Steep, rugged cliff
19 Imprudent
20 Anger
21 Burly
22 Mister, in Munster
23 Canine
24 "Midnight Rider" singer?
26 Have — in one's bonnet
27 Having the flu, e.g.
28 Prefix with sex or cycle
29 Opera feature
30 Making a gondola go
32 Canine
33 "Highway to Heaven" co-star?
38 Zoo
40 heavyweight
41 19th of 24 Greek letters
42 Cager Ming
43 Examine
45 Sponge up
47 See 44-Down
49 Davenport and divan
51 Canine 2004 presidential hopeful?
57 Trio less one
58 Supermarket scanner input
59 "Hulk" director Ang
61 Grains, as beer or ale
66 "Fear Factor" ailer
68 By way of
69 Hemingway or Tubby
72 Canine
73 "Memoirs of a Geisha" novelist?
77 "American —" (Richard Gere film)
78 Legendary coach
79 Patriotic women's org.
80 Moisture, as a turkey
81 Same: Prefix
82 Heartaches
86 "Get him, Fido!"
88 Canine
90 "On the Waterfront" Oscar winner?
97 "That's easy for you —!"
98 Auld lang —

DOWN

1 Japanese volcano
2 Carbon compound
3 Around 93-Down
4 Twitch
5 That, in León
6 Ship anew
7 Meredith, formerly of "Today"
8 Abbr. at JFK
9 Joker player
10 Romero
11 Sequence
12 Extreme folly
13 "Near — can tell ..." D.D.'s nickname
14 "Skip to —" (kids' tune)
15 Ninth-century king called "the Bald"
16 Makes a new proposal
17 Response to "Am so!"
18 Rocker
24 Muscle woe
25 Paid intro?
31 "I do" setting
33 Hip to
34 Popped top
35 Great anger
36 Simply must
37 Greeted the villain
38 Rule, in India
39 "True Blood" ailer
44 With 45-Across, recuperation aid
46 Peter out
47 Toil
48 Shroud city
50 Less limited
52 Ladder part
53 Film prefix with Cop
54 Virtual greeting
55 Mtn.
56 Zero out
60 To be, to Fifi
61 Biblical trio
62 Crop up
63 State's #2 exec.
64 E'en if
65 Brynner on Broadway
67 Irish county
70 BBQ meat bit
71 Tch'r's union
73 Parks and Ponselle
74 Metal debris
75 Part of NE
76 Daily Chi-Town paper
83 Chimp kin
84 Qatari money
85 Ungodliness
87 Disney frame
89 Jocks
90 Copied cattle
91 "I, Claudius" role
92 Contact lens cleaner brand
93 Midday
94 Show times
95 Hoop part
96 Belittle, in rap
100 Alternative
101 The Beach Boys' "Help Me, —"
102 Semihard, mild cheese
104 — ball (game played with a plastic bat)
106 Unveil
107 After that
110 "But there is — in Mudville ..."
111 Actor
112 George
112 Med. group
113 City in North Dakota
114 Refugee
119 Squad
120 Has it wrong
123 Prefix with tour or type
124 In thing
125 Family guy
126 Sci-fi ability
127 Old rival of United



To Your Good Health

By Paul G. Donohue, M.D.

Urinary Tract Infections Differ

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: My mother was discharged from the hospital this past week. She was admitted for a urinary tract infection. She has had many urinary tract infections in the past, and they were all treated as an outpatient. Why was hospitalization needed this time? -- J.J.

ANSWER: The term "urinary tract" covers a considerable amount of ground. The kidneys, the ureters (the tubes that carry urine to the bladder), the urinary bladder and the tube that drains it — the urethra — are the four parts of the urinary tract. Your mother's past urinary tract infections most likely were bladder infections. The official name for those infections is cystitis. People usually are treated for cystitis as outpatients.

Kidney infections, on the other hand, are much more serious, much more difficult to treat and carry with them the possibility of permanent damage. These infections most often are treated with intravenous antibiotics in the hospital. Such infections have the name pyelonephritis (PIE-uh-low-neff-RIGHT-iss).

Bladder infections make a person uncomfortable, require frequent urination and might induce a slight rise in body temperature.

With a kidney infection, people take to their bed, have a high temperature, often develop shaking chills, and suffer flank pain. This is the kind of urinary tract infection you mother recently had.

The booklet on urinary tract infections provides the details of these illnesses, which are more common in women than men. Readers can order a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue -- No. 1204W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: Just below my armpit I have a small, red bump. It's not tender, even if I push on it. I know it's been there for many years, but I can't tell you how many, maybe forever. What could it be? -- D.A.

ANSWER: This is a guess, only a guess. Because of the location, the lack of symptoms and the long time it's been there, I'd say it's an extra nipple. About 1 percent of the population has one or more extra nipples. Since it's been there for so long and since it hasn't caused any trouble, you don't have to rush to a doctor. Mention it the next time you see one.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I love sweets. I also have diabetes. Can I use honey as a natural sweetener? -- L.V.

ANSWER: Sugar is a natural product, too. You have to use honey as you would sugar. One teaspoon of sugar has 16 calories, and one teaspoon of honey, 21.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I take flaxseed each morning with my breakfast. It works wonders for me after having constipation for many years. My question is, Will the residue of flaxseed settle in my colon and cause a greater chance of diverticulitis or some other type of stomach disorder? -- P.N.

ANSWER: Flaxseed keeps you from constipation. That reduces the risk of diverticulitis greatly. It isn't linked to any digestive tract disorder. Stick with it.

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

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ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES

Answer

5	1	6	8	9	3	4	7	2
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Hearthstone Place Nursing facility is currently accepting applications for a licensed Administrator. Applications are available at the facility located at 506 Allensville Street, Elktion, KY or mail application to P.O. Box 427, Elktion, KY 42220. Applications are also available on line at www.bolster-jeffries.com.

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Hopkinsville Housekeeping/ Grounds Person

Morris Estates in Hopkinsville is looking for an experienced dependable housekeeper/grounds person to assist in the cleaning of our apartment units and common area grounds. The individual must also be pleasant, energetic, flexible and most of all a team player. Painting experience is a big plus. This is a full time 40 hours a week position. Please send resume to jguzm@mrdepartments.com No Phone Calls or Walk Ins.

Hopkinsville

Immediate Opening For A Full Time Evening Case Manager

Seeking a highly motivated individual to work 4pm to Midnight as Case Manager for a Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Agency. Applicant must possess a 4 year degree in Social Service related field. Please submit your letter of interest and resume by January 9, 2014 to: Anita Brown, Program Director, PO Box 1165, Hopkinsville, KY 42241.

Hopkinsville

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Pennyrile Garden Club Meets At Glover Room

The Pennyrile Garden Club met for their annual Christmas party Dec. 18 in the Glover Room at Pennyrile Forest State Resort Park. Peggy Furgerson orchestrated the party activities in the absence of hostess Dianne Back.

Brunch was served before gifts were exchanged. Attendees shared favorite

memories of departed members and played several rounds of bingo.

Those attending were Sharon Budd, Charlotte Cooley, Imogene Davis, Sally Jackman, Jeannie Knapp, Susan Menser, Eloise Morris and Furgerson.

The next meeting will be Feb. 18 with Menser as hostess.

MCC Will Host Affair Honoring Dr. M.L. King

Madisonville Community College will host a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration Jan. 15 from noon to 1 p.m. in the multipurpose room of the John H. Gray Building.

Included in the celebration will be the viewing of recorded interviews with local civil rights pioneers. Michael Lowery, a participant in the 1963 March on Washington, will be the master of ceremonies. Sylvia Chase, president of MCC's Multicultural Student Association, will read a reflection piece, and musical selections will be performed by MCC faculty member Roshun Radford. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Gregory Stallworth, executive director of the Equal Employment Opportunity of Fort Campbell.

The event, sponsored by the MCC Cultural Diversity Committee, is open to the community. For information,

phone James Bowles at 270-824-8588.

At 4 p.m. Jan. 18, the 30th annual celebration honoring King's life and legacy will take place in the Byrnes Auditorium located in the Hatley Building on MCC's Health Sciences Campus.

The event's theme is Committed to Fulfilling the Dream and will feature the Kentucky State University Concert Choir and the Hopkins County Community MLK Youth Mass Choir. The Rev. Dr. Damon Lynch Jr., pastor of the New Jerusalem Baptist Church in Cincinnati, Ohio, will be the keynote speaker.

Doors will open at 3:15 p.m. Admission is free, but an offering will be received to support the MCC MLK Scholarship Fund. Two scholarship recipients will be announced during this year's celebration.

Pennyrile State Park Is Seeking Volunteers

Pennyrile Forest State Resort Park is in need of volunteers in several areas, including the golf course grounds, pro shop, recreation and campground area.

Volunteers may sign up on a yearly or seasonal basis and are now required to work eight-hour shifts instead of the 10 hours previously required. In certain instances, the eight hours can be split

into different shifts.

Instead of receiving one round of golf for every 3.33 hours worked, volunteers will now receive unlimited play per week. Other departments offer different benefits.

Those interested in volunteering should phone Becky Clark at 797-3421, ext. 2420. Anyone interested in volunteering at the golf course should phone 797-7888.

Although Gasoline Tax Dips Consumers See Slow Change

By Gina Clear
News Enterprise

Kentucky motorists eventually may see a little relief at gas pumps.

Starting Jan. 1, the state's gas tax declines from 25.9 cents to 24.4 cents per gallon — a move that reflects a drop in a calculated average of wholesale fuel costs.

Although the decrease starts today, the drop may not immediately be evident, said Theresa Podguski, director of legislative affairs for AAA.

"What we've found is that when there is a decrease in the gas tax, it takes some time for it to work its way into the pump," she said, noting retailers already have paid for gas headed to the pumps. "Consumers won't see it right away. It's hard to say if you're going to see it at all."

The decrease could result in a loss of up to \$45 million this year to the Kentucky Road Fund, according to a Kentucky Transportation Cabinet news release.

Alzheimer's Support Group To Meet

The Alzheimer's Support Group will meet at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the PADD office, 300 Hammond Drive in

Hopkinsville.

For additional information, phone Miranda Hunt at 270-886-9484.



RACHEL BLALOCK receives her degree from **Dr. Tim Miller** at the commencement ceremonies at **Murray State University** December 14.

Local Lady Is Graduate At Murray University

Rachel Blalock, daughter of Barry and Penny Blalock of Dawson Springs, graduated summa cum laude from Murray State University. She received a Bachelor of Science in business in accounting during commencement ceremonies

Dec. 14. She maintained a 4.0 grade point average.

Blalock will continue her studies at MSU in pursuit of a Master's in Business Administration degree. She is a 2010 graduate of Dawson Springs High School.

County Judges Participate In Circuit Judges College

Circuit Court Judge James Brantley and Family Court Judge Susan Wesley McClure participated in the 2013 Circuit Judges Fall College Nov. 18–20 in Lexington. The Administrative Office of the Courts provided the judicial education program.

The judges received updates on case law and legislation and attended sessions on court technology, bail, e-discovery and court interpreting for individuals who are deaf or non-English-speaking. The judges also heard from Chief Justice of Kentucky John D. Minton Jr. about trends in the state court system.

Circuit judges also had the opportunity to attend courses about problem-solving courts such as Veterans Treatment Courts and Drug Court, substance abuse issues, search and seizure, tax delinquency and bankruptcy's effect on state court

rulings. Another session focused on a judge's responsibilities in appointing counsel for defendants and in considering waivers of counsel from defendants who want to represent themselves.

Circuit Court is the court of general jurisdiction that hears civil matters involving more than \$5,000, capital offenses and felonies, divorces, adoptions, termination of parental rights, land dispute title cases and contested probate cases.

The college also offered sessions specifically for Family Court judges about child traumatic stress and recent federal legislation on child abuse and neglect and children in foster care. In counties that have a Family Court, a division of Circuit Court, the court has primary jurisdiction in cases involving family issues, including divorces, adoption, child support, domestic violence and juvenile status offenses.

Pennyrile Homemakers Plan To Meet Friday

The Pennyrile Homemakers will meet at 10 a.m. Friday at Pennyrile Forest State Resort Park. Sophie Logan will serve as hostess.

Lesson leaders will be Lou Nell Hensley and

Jeannine Moore. The lesson is on what women should know about finances, planning for life's major events.

Members are reminded to bring food items for DAPS.

Grandparent Support Group To Meet

The Pennyrile Grandparent Support Group will meet at 10 a.m. Jan. 15 at the PADD office, 300 Hammond

Drive in Hopkinsville.

For information, phone Miranda Hunt at 270-886-9484.

Hopkins County Judges Attend Judges College

District Court Judges W. Logan Calvert and William R. Whitledge, who represent Hopkins County, participated in the 2013 District Judges Fall College Nov. 4–6 in Lexington. The Administrative Office of the Courts provided the judicial education program for the state's district judges.

The judges attended courses about Veterans Treatment courts, juvenile justice, human trafficking, cybercrime, substance abuse, court technology and court interpreting for individuals who are deaf or non-English-speaking. They also heard from Chief Justice of Kentucky John D. Minton Jr. about trends in the

state court system.

The college also covered emergency protective orders and domestic violence orders, the bail schedule under House Bill 463 and new legislation and case law.

District court judges handle juvenile matters, city and county ordinances, misdemeanors, violations, traffic offenses, probate of wills, arraignments, felony probable cause hearings, small claims involving \$2,500 or less, civil cases involving \$5,000 or less, voluntary and involuntary mental commitments and cases relating to domestic violence and abuse. In FY 2012, 752,821 District Court cases were filed statewide.

It's Now Time To Apply For Federal Student Aid

High school seniors planning to attend college or technical school this fall should fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, also called the FAFSA, as soon as possible, according to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority.

The information on the FAFSA determines if students qualify for federal and state grants and for federal student loans. Also, many colleges use the information to award grants and scholarships administered by the school. Therefore, students should submit the FAFSA even if they feel it is unlikely they will qualify for aid.

The FAFSA asks for information about income, assets and expenses. A formula set by Congress determines eligibility for federal and state aid. If the student is

considered a dependent under federal guidelines, both the student and parents must provide financial information. Nearly all students going directly to college from high school are considered dependent.

Some student aid programs have limited money and provide funds on a first come, first served basis to qualified students, so it is important to submit the FAFSA as soon as possible.

For fastest results, KHEAA recommends that students submit the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.gov.

To find links to other useful education Web sites, go to www.gotocollege.ky.gov. For more information about Kentucky scholarships and grants, visit www.kheaa.com; write KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602; or phone 800-928-8926, ext. 6-7372.

Land Between The Lakes Offers Nature View Tours

One cure for the winter blues may be to embrace the season and attend one of the many wildlife-viewing van tours offered at Land Between The Lakes (LBL) National Recreation Area.

During January and February, there are multiple guided tours offering outdoor enthusiasts a chance to witness some of nature's greatest moments. Registration is required for all tours, and space is limited. Call 270-924-2020, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to learn more about each tour and make reservation.

An all-day Nature Watch tour on January 18 will take participants in search of eagles, pelicans, and some of the 25+ species of waterfowl that call Land Between

The Lakes home in the winter. The morning session explores winter birding hotspots of LBL, while the afternoon session focuses on eagles in northern LBL. Join one or both tours! The cost is \$25/person for a full day, \$15/person for a half day.

Land Between The Lakes continues to offer Eagle Viewing Van Tours from 10 to 4:30 p.m. on Jan. 11, 12, and from 1:30 to 5 p.m. Jan. 26, Feb. 1, 2, 8, and 9. Winter is the peak season for seeing bald eagles in LBL, both our resident eagles and visiting "snowbirds" are out looking for fish around the lakes. We'll take visitors to the best spots in LBL for spotting these magnificent creatures. Cost is \$7/adult and \$5/child.

Compassionate Friends To Meet

The Compassionate Friends will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Christian County Baptist Association, 905 North Drive, Hopkinsville. Bereaved

parents, grandparents and siblings are encouraged to attend.

For more information, phone Mary Foster at 270-886-5163.



THESE third graders took part in a Christmas Pageant at the Dawson Springs Elementary School Friday, Dec. 20.



MARK ADAMS (right) holds his book "Jilli, That's Silly!" which is a Readers' Favorite Gold Medalist and is featured in the Independent Book Publisher Association national newsletter. Adams is president elect of Florida Authors and Publishers Association. With him (from left) Dete Meserve, producer and writer; Eriq LaSalle, actor, producer, writer; Leigh Cunningham, writer.

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